ISSUE #5. NOV/DEC 2000. FREE

UPFRONT

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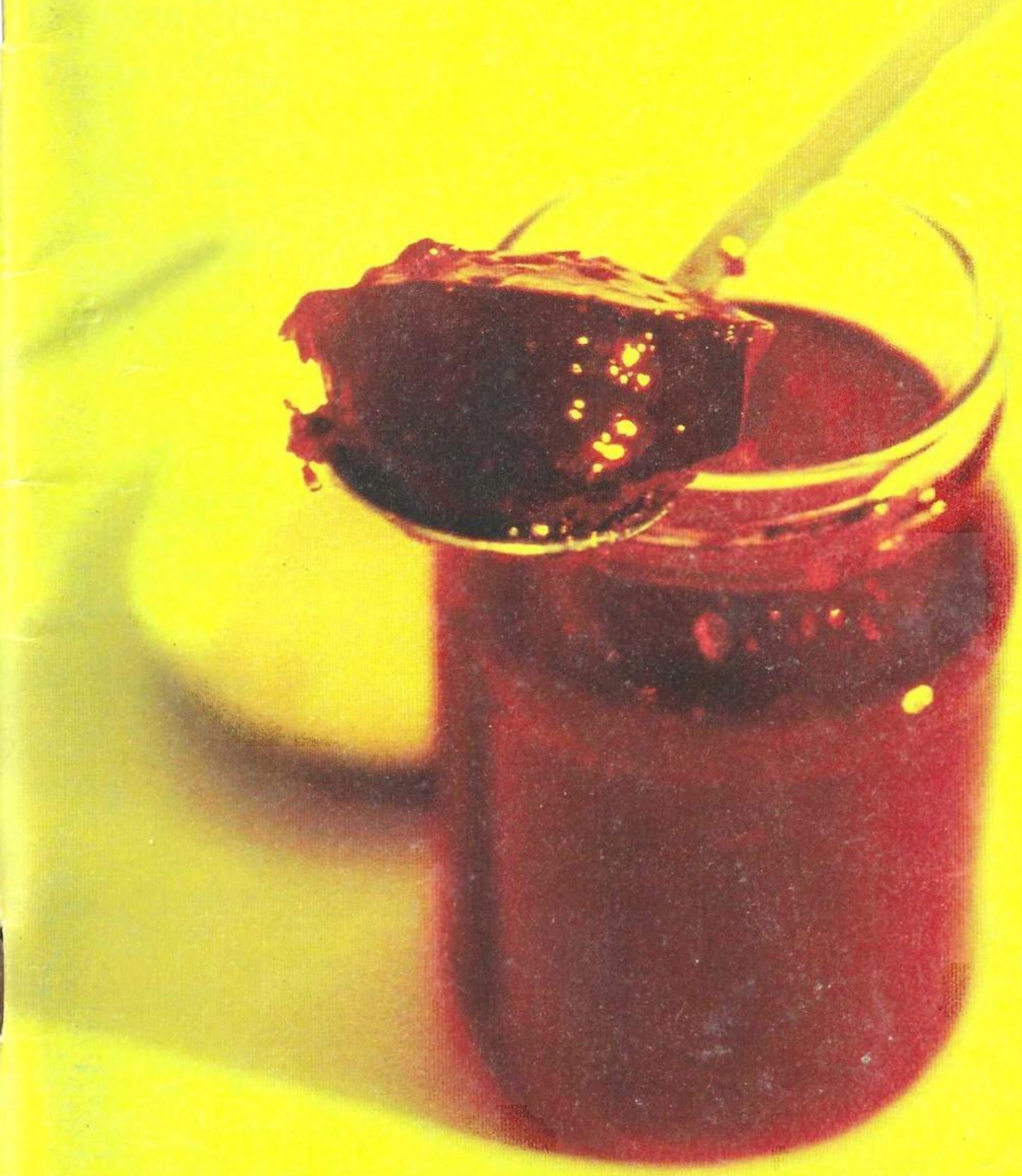

CAPTAIN TINRIB & MAX THE ALIEN THING · PAUL SHUREY
ROB BURNS · STIMULANT DJS · CRISTIAN VARELA
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INTRO

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Welcome to UPFRONT 5. This "windswept" issue sees the UK mostly underwater. The clubbing fraternity have had to rethink their weekends due to the absurd weather conditions (train routes closed, venues flooded etc) and the latest is they think its gonna get worse. Anyway enough of that. Hopefully this may cheer you up a bit - as you can feel there's 20% more to feast your "mince pies" upon (we've expanded to 48 pages) - so, there's more news, views and grooves than ever before.

This issue's stocking stuffers include an exclusive interview with one of Germany's finest exports JamX and De Leon, aka DuMonde, and also the low down on Captain Tinrib and Max The Alien Thing's exploits across the big pond.

So as we all prepare for the next "Millennium countdown/party of the century/any excuse to charge more, get pissed, trolleyed" we hope you all have a brilliant festive season. Please remember to look after yourselves and keep your eyes peeled for anyone who may have overdone it, as you do round this time of year.

Merry Xmas/Happy New Year.
Next issue Feb 2001

UPFRONT

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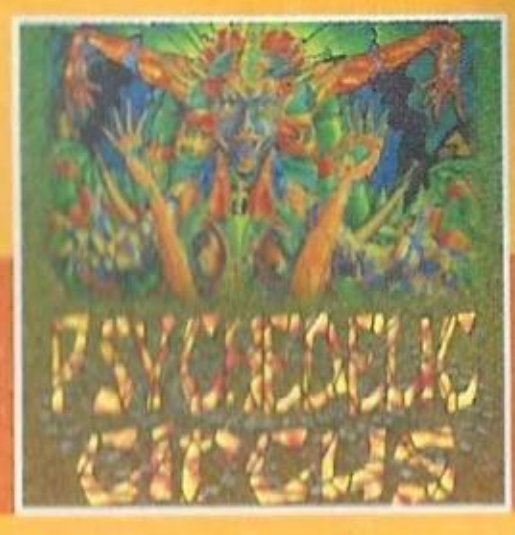
NEWS

DOGMA 3000

TRIBE OF FROG

BRAINBASHERS - SHOCK RECORDS



CYBER SOUNDS UPDATE

Back in issue 3 we reported about a Midlands based sound system and their scrapes with Mr Plod, subsequent confiscating of equipment and assorted fines and prosecutions (some of which were later dropped). **Cohesion** was a benefit to help pay fines and replace damaged equipment, held at **Subway City** in Birmingham on 15th September and although it came slap bang in the middle of that petrol crisis thingy, they still managed to get **500** people partying with a conscience. This number was later increased when the club owner (who had double booked the night!) opened up the whole club to the Goth night upstairs whose punters all promptly legged it into Cohesion for the remainder of the night.

Organiser and Cyber Sounds spokesman Steve said "It was a bizarre sight but everyone had a great night!" On top of which, Steve & his partner in crime, Helen, got their fines paid, the people whose decor got trashed were reimbursed and, as if that weren't enough, they donated **£100** to **Amnesty** and made a donation to a small charity called **Playright** that send toys to refugee camps. Steve would like to say thanks to everyone who helped with the night and all the sound systems involved. Nice one, boys!

DOGMA 3000 are a live act from **Croatia** and it looks like they're about to put their home town of **Zagreb** on the map, only this time in a much more positive light. The release of their self-titled second album in January next year will see an eclectic mix of styles bringing together house, techno, breakbeat and some Goa-style trance. Guest producers include **Flying Rhino's Gus Till**, Japanese techno producer **Ree.R** and Israeli trance producer **Har-ell Prusky**, to give the album a truly international vibe. Look out for the first single in late November entitled **"Bodyrock"** which is a new track backed with **"Hey Mr Juice"**, the Gus Till produced opener off the album.

SOLIPSE 2001 UPDATE

The **Full Solar Eclipse & Solstice Festival** which was originally to be held on the island of **Madagascar** will now take place in **Zambia** between **June 15th** and **25th.** The change of location comes as a result of organisers deciding that the infrastructure of the country was not suitable to a festival of this size. Promising **"a truly Global, Colourful Tribal gathering with some of the best names in Trance, Ambient and Ethnic beats from around the world. A 10 day celebration of Music, Performance, Peace, Love & Psychedelics"**. If Solipse 1999 was anything to go by then it should be a good 'un. For more info: **website:www.solipse.com**

Hard House supremos **SHOCK RECORDS** are planning a national tour to coincide with the release of what will be the first in a series of 10 compilation CD's of their finest moments. **Shock Volume 1** is released on **27th October** when the tour kicks off in **Mansfield.** See listings for further information.

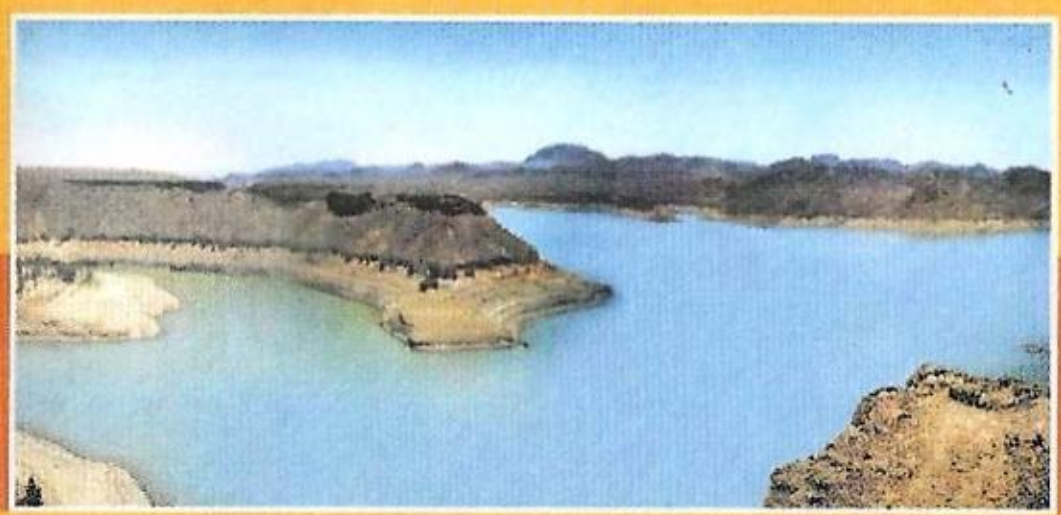
WILD FROGZ, UV supremos, have decided, after dazzling clubbers at shedloadsa parties for years, that it was about time they put on their own. And what a fabulous success **Tribe of Frog** has been. Look out for them at **The Depot, Bristol** on **Sat 23rd Dec** for more crazee costumed frivolities. They'll also be in Ibiza next summer with an underground alternative experience.

And it's all change for fellow Sheffield funmongers, **INSOMNIACZ** who will be at **The Corporation, Bank St** from **1st October.**

PSYCHEDELIC CIRCUS is a massive all-nighter taking place at **The Arches in Sheffield** (what is it with Sheffield at the moment, party central or wot?!) on **25th Nov.** The event is a collaboration between **Kundalini**, **Alien Resonance**, **Sunrise** (of the Global kind), **Trancemission** and chums and features the talents of **Andy Mason**, **Jimmy Tango** plus **Cerebellum**, **Vek**, **Lennie Lazerbeam**, **Audio Architects** and more!

NEWS

MOROCCO 2001



Fancy something a bit different this **New Years Eve** after the mega-hype (and prices to match!) of last year? **MOROCCO 2001** is a Trance festival being held on an island in the **Ouarzazate** region of the country. With a view of the nearby mountains, a vast Oasis that sits at the shoreline and the only construction on the island being a centuries old ruin of a Moroccan Kasbah, the setting sounds idyllic. The event will encompass the best in Global Trance and will also showcase representatives from the Moroccan Trance scene. The line-up so far includes: **X-Dream**, **Raja ram**, **Etnica**, **Total Eclipse**, **Deedrah**, **Sun Project**, **James Munro**, **Medicine Drum**, **Infected Mushroom**, **Atmos & Dj Anti**. The organisers are also encouraging people not to just restrict their visit solely to the festival site, but to explore and travel. With this in mind, they are posting extensive links on the website for adventure tours and other sites to visit whilst in Morocco.

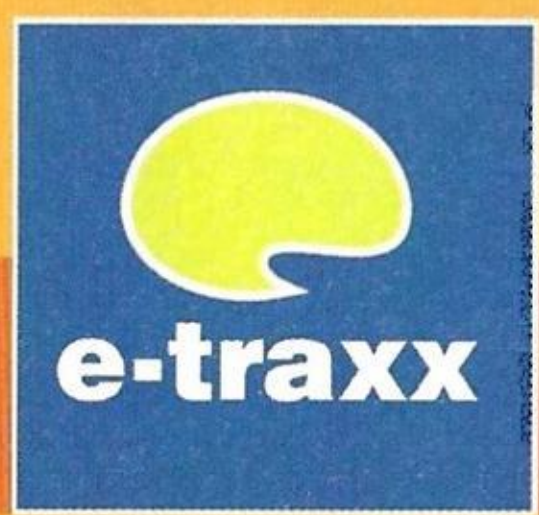
One of the most positive aspects of the festival is the enormous impact it will have on the local economy. In an area that relies predominantly on the sale of indigenous goods like rugs and jewellery, the festival will generate hundreds of jobs and over half the crew will be locals. This was one of the factors that persuaded the Governor of Ouarazazate to give his permission for the event to take place.

Organiser Carlo Rossi has also asked us to point out that everyone's favourite festival horror "the toilets" should be a much less traumatic experience than usual with facilities that should be more than adequate for the expected 10,000 people and that they will also be of the flushing variety! And finally, if you don't fancy lugging your tent across continents, you can rent one when you get there! Another top idea, and a first at any festy I've ever been to!

Tickets are now available priced **$100 before 1st December** and **$150 after** from **Access All Areas (www.accessallareas.org)** at **Dragon Discs** in **Camden Town**, plus other outlets nation-wide. Ticket price includes boat transportation to and from the island and local food in limited quantities.

The organisers are also looking for décor crew to help create and build the visual art that will add to the festivals attractions. Food and housing will be provided.

For further information: **www.morocco2001.com**



JOHN TRUELOVE

TeC, the Hardhouse label originally from what was the **Truelove Collective** is back after a summer world tour with a whole box full of new releases and a new sound as well!. You can still expect the traditional hardhouse tinged with melodic trance elements in addition to some hard trance numbers and, to differentiate between the two, there's a new logo that's **blue for trance** and **orange for hardhouse**. There's also going to be a new hybrid blending the two together, which has been going down a storm so far, apparently. Look out for the first of these from **mid-October** onwards.

New label **E-TRAXX** will showcase collaborations by **Dynamic Intervention** (aka the highly prolific **Mik Cree**) & **DJ Sol Ray** (who just happens, along with his other half Hils, to be the inspiration and driving force behind this very tome that you are reading!) The label has been set up and will be run by the aforementioned Hils (or "She who must be obeyed" as some of us fondly think of her!) if she can find the time! First up is **"Drop This"** released later this month followed by **"Needle Jumpin"** later this year. If their first outing together **"Goin Insane"** on **Katalyst** is anything to go by these tunes will be well worth searching out. Mik & Sol have also found the time, in their busy schedules, to play some gigs together. Catch them at **Pickle - Friday 8th December** at the **Colloseum**, Vauxhall, London and the following night at **Ripsnorter**, **The Depot Bristol**. With dates early next year at The **Monastery**, **Fishtank** and **Aura Orange**. Keep your eyes on the listings and ads for details.

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SUNDISSENTIAL

MATT CLARK/FEVAH

NEWS

SUNDISSENTIAL, the original Sunday party posse, are finally hitting the West with a Bristol event to be held at **Club Evolution**, **The Waterfront Bristol**. The first two events will be held on **Sunday 3rd December** from **2pm-12 midnight** and then **Boxing Night/Tuesday 26th December** from **9.30pm-4.00am**. See Listings for full line ups. Free membership will be available for these events; you can get more information from their website: **www.sundissential.com** or on **0121 236 8339**.

PICKLE's 3rd birthday took place at **Brixton Academy** on **September 30th**; a huge success by all accounts! **4,000** up for it revellers got well and truly Pickled to the sounds of **DJ Thermobee**, amongst others, who kept things flowing till 6am with his twisted tunes. And if that wasn't enough excitement for the Pickle Tribe they have also found a new home as from **24th November** when they will be moving to **Club Colloseum**, Vauxhall, London. A purpose built club The Colloseum offers increased capacity and a cranking sound system in two large rooms and a smaller third room. The two main rooms will continue to feature the high energy sounds of nu-nrg/hardhouse and upliftin' techno trance.

DP in a heady rush of excitement unleashes it's brand new label, **DP Xpress**, on the world to compliment their already successful **DP** and **DP Trance** labels. This off shoot will bring you some of the best international releases with (to coin a PC phrase) a **non-specific genre policy**, the only precondition is that it's hard! To kick off there's a double A side release from **Plastix** entitled **"Attack/Release"**, a collaboration of German DJ/Producers **Tommaso De Donatis**, better known as **DJ Quicksilver**, **Imrecorte and Kurgan**. Release date **Nov 13th** thru **Amato**.

And there's yet another new night coming to **Bristol**. **SCREAM** launches on **Sunday 3rd December** at the new venue **Rock** in **Bristol**. DJs **Judge Jules**, **Tall Paul** and **Sarah G** launch the night before Scream return on **Boxing day** with **Tall Paul**, **Timo Maas**, **Fergie** and **Lisa Lashes**. But it doesn't stop there for Scream will also be starting as new monthly residency at **Bed** in **Sheffield** kicking off **Sunday December 19th** with **Nick Rafferty**, **Charlotte Birch**, **Sarah G**, **Rob Van Geek**, **John OO Fleming**, **Lisa Pin Up** and then again on **New Years Day** with **Lisa Lashes**, **Fergie**, **Andy Farley**, **Steve Thomas**, **Sarah G**, **Rob Tissera**, **Mark Tidy**, etc. These events will run from **2pm-2am.** For further Information: **07855 546 989**

ANTIWORLDS move from The Drome under London Bridge Tube to **Cloud 9** on **Albert Embankment** has not turned out to be for the best and as a result, they're heading back to **The Drome**. Moving to **Saturdays** with effect from **25th November**, their first party will be a mix of NRG, Trance, of both the Hard and Psychedelic varieties, and Acid Techno. These events will be monthly from next year.
See listings for further information.

FREESTYLE is a new label from the **Flying Rhino** gang who would usually be associated with Psychedelic and more recently, Progressive Trance of the most banging variety. Freestyle is a parallel label that will concentrate on artists rather than compilations and will feature a much more lyrical, vocally led sound. The first release entitled **"The Rumble EP"** by **Boom Devil** is released mid-November and has been getting airplay a plenty by **Boy George** and **John Peel** and was **Annie Nightingale's** single of the week. Expect more next year in the same vein from a 3 track EP entitled **"Cool Down"** by **Red Seal**, release date early January.

FEVAH is a new label of the same name and featuring many of the DJ's that play at its club night. Split into two separate genres, House from Trance, the first release from **Matt Clarke** on **Fevah House** is entitled **"The Game We Play"** and will be launched at **There @ Heaven** on **December 1st**. Next up will be **"Atomic Drop"** & **"Your Turn"** by **Eamonn Fevah** on **Fevah Trance**. There will be a monster of a launch for this one at **Match Made In Heaven** on **New Years Day**.

As well as running one of the biggest underground record shops in London and **Infectious Distribution** the "grafters" behind **KINETEC** have found the time (!!??) to open **Kinetec Pressing Ltd**. This biz will provide CD and Vinyl mastering services in London's Hoxton Square. There's on street parking, comfy sofas and also a Cappuccino machine. They also plan to offer weekly dub-plate sessions where you can come down with a DAT/CD, have a beer and walk away with an acetate ready to play. Have we got to bring our own beer or is that included in the price?

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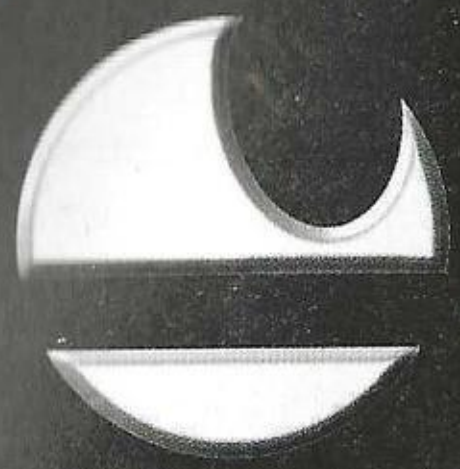

DJ ANTI/SPIRAL TRAX

SUNDISSENTIAL

NEWS

PLANET EASTON, the **Bristol** based Psychedelic Trance night ended its 18 month run of packed out parties on September 8th with its biggest and best so far. Headlined by **DJ Anti (Spiral Trax)** who was ably supported by **Tim McGregor** and rezzies **Morphy Richards**, **F'da F'da** and **Shahara**, it was a fitting end to a great season. It has also heralded a welcome resurgence of the Psychedelic scene out west. Planet Easton is off on its winter hols but promises to be back next Spring with its chakras realigned, bringing you more big name guests plus all the old faves.

SUNDISSENTIAL are also starting a new record label in conjunction with our friends at **Alphamagic**. First projects will include an album of Sundissential faves from the last 4 years put together by **Nick Rafferty** and **Paul Kershaw** to be released at the beginning of next year and also some 12s from the likes of **Nick Rafferty**, **Andy Farley** and other Sundissential rezzies.

And finally... we couldn't possibly let this issue go without a mention of that champion of all things great and good and right (wing, that is) **Anne Widdecombe**. Following her Zero Tolerance speech (some of the content of which was reported in the news section of issue # 4, incidentally), she has inadvertently brought the drugs debate forward far more than any of the "yes, when I was a student but I didn't like it" posse. As a result of her speech, every single newspaper including the usual hard line lot came out against her and it is unlikely that any politician will make statements of this nature again. It is also quite likely that as a direct result of her speech, a realistic, constructive and positive debate will now take place.

The above news can now be accessed on www.madrecords.net/upfront for all of your mates who missed the chance to grab a copy of Upfront.

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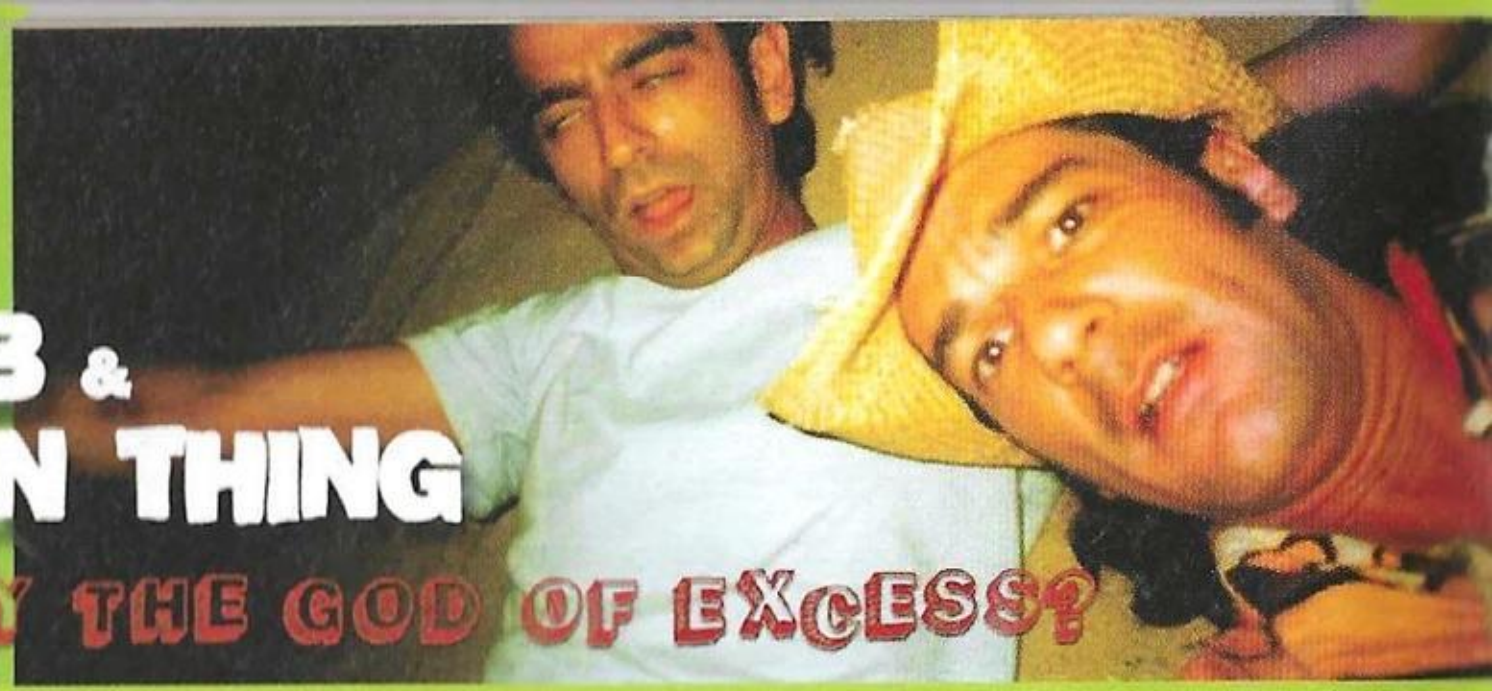
THE MONASTERY	24.02.01 @ Torwood Gardens, Torquay
THE FISHTANK	07.04.01 @ The Wedgewood Rooms, Southsea

Look out for DJ Sol Ray & Dynamic Intervention in Toronto, Ottawa & Vancouver early 2001

For more details or bookings contact Airborne

CAPTAIN TINRIB & MAX THE ALIEN THING

WATCHED OVER BY THE GOD OF EXCESS?



Watched Over By The God of Excess?

Well, it was a strange summer wasn't it? Cavernous empty domes in Greenwich, Posh in Ibiza, hard house bandwagoning - we even had some sun, but as usual, the Yanks had to go one better. This summer, the American West saw goings on so strange they had x-files aficionados reaching for their scrapbooks. The FBI have their theories, as do the CIA - but they've never dealt with Tinrib or Alien Trax before. Upfront can now reveal the results of our own international investigation.

It began on a seemingly normal night in Toronto. Fresh from a long haul flight, Jon Bell aka The Captain and Max The Alien Thing, arrived at Ascension. "I think they really liked us there", Max was heard to say a few days later. He was certainly ideally placed to see people dancing - lying on the dancefloor, unable to move. At one point The Captain himself became so emotional that his stomach ejected its contents over the cables beneath the mixer. He also MC'd over Max's set. "That's right party people in the place - we're having it, and we're having it large," he reportedly said.

Ever the professionals Max and Jon squeezed in an interview for internet radio station www.1groove.com and a world exclusive Tinrib live set from their hotel toilet, all on the same night.

Pausing only to attempt to make our very own Sol Ray (apparently in a similar state to Max and Jon) skip his flight home, our intrepid heroes made their way to San Francisco. Once there, they again fell victim to the ravages of travel and emotion and after playing to another crowd of grateful hard NRG converts, The Captain and The Alien Thing became separated. Max eventually found his way back to the hotel, via the ghetto. Jon was not so lucky. The Captain found himself in a mysterious Japanese garden, chased by police and up to his waist in pond water. With nothing more than a Hawaiian shirt, a cluster of trees and his powers of camouflage, he evaded capture. "Luckily I didn't have my passport and stuff with me," he allegedly said. "I'd left them on the car bonnet - but my money was soaked. I had to dry about a grand on the dashboard."

And the strange tales go on. There was the club in Salt Lake City, where it took promoters 10 hours to get them from hotel to gig and so they were forced to switch off the music for 30 minutes for a sound check! "Oh great - that'll make the atmosphere really special." Jon was heard to say, being broadly welcoming of cultural customs in clubland.

Perhaps strangest of all though, was the case of 'The Flying Monitor of Portland'. Having set up a stall with Tinrib merchandise worth $1000, Jon went off to woo the crowd with his patented live voyage. On finishing, one of the promoters rushed up, saying "Jon, did you know your merchandise had been stolen?" After thanking the man for not interrupting his set with such trivial information, Jon went back to the DJ booth where Max was now playing. Clubbers and promoters were amazed and baffled when, moments later, the monitor speaker took on a life of it's own - tracing a ballistic trajectory across the booth and onto the floor.

The more observant among you might by now have spotted a connection between this spate of American bizarreness, and something of a 'normal' period on the UK scene.

With the glimmerings of a theory, I cornered Jon and Max. Initially they were reluctant to comment, saying -
"It's all bollocks and you can't print any of it."
However, after I cited a number of high profile witnesses including Sol Ray, Superfast Oz, Oberon and Chris Liberator, they agreed to speak.

"We had a good time, and we went down really well" said Max. "But I'm not sure they knew what to make of us. The clubbers were all really young, and quite straight. The scene's also different. There were loads of styles of music at the places we played. They are slowly picking up on the harder stuff, though - it's going to get much better in the future."

As good as the clubs were, they both agree that the best part of the trip was their brief holiday in Mexico. "We were really pissed and bought this tiny plot of land, ten miles north of San Philipe" said Max. "But when we tried to find it again, we couldn't," added Jon. "We'd lost the plot."

Unfortunately, neither Jon nor Max had time to look for it, both having to return to London, to put the finishing touches on their respective albums and, in Jon's case, to arrange a studio move. "We're moving to an enormous custom built studio in about a month," explained Jon. "It's gonna mean about a month out of action, but we've completely outgrown our old studio."

Max too has been busy, planning a series of live shows to promote the Alien Trax album, "The Missing Files", and of course "Fish Tales 4: Alien Lobster Abduction", mixed by Max for Tinrib.

If you speak to them now, the tour of Canada and the US already seems like a distant dream. Not surprising really, as they said it often felt like a distant dream while they were actually there. But one thing's for certain, they were there - there's a trail of police incident reports and satisfied clubbers to prove it. But remember kids, don't try any of this at home. These guys are professionals, and they're watched over by the god of excess.

Alex James

Check Out:
FISH TALES 4 - Alien Lobster Abduction (Tinrib)
ALIEN TRAX - The Missing Files (Alien Trax)
Max & Jon's Interviews at - www.thump-radio.com

COMPETITION

Max Alien Trax & Captain Tinrib are offering a copy of each of their new albums to five lucky winners who answer the following question correctly:

"Where is the lost plot?"

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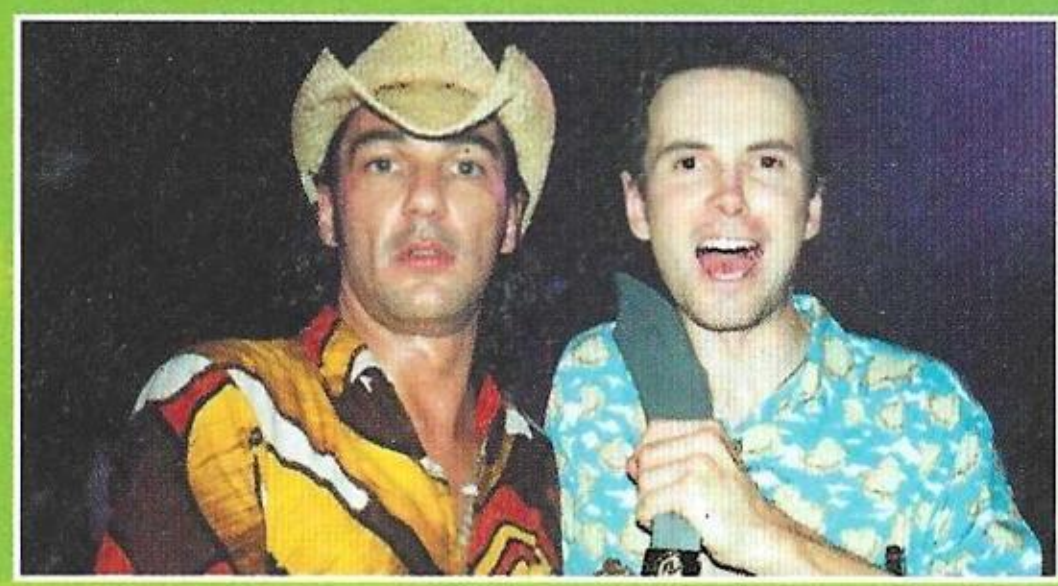

WEIRDO LIVE @ SUPERFISH!

With Captain Tinrib out of the country two months prior to this event touring North America as told in "Watched Over by the God of Excess" (see previous pg) all the hard work and stress for this event went to Nadia his trusty shipmate and all-round wonder woman.

The week leading up to Superfish! must have been the most stressful any promoter has ever faced, with the country nearly crippled by a fuel crisis. I'm sure lesser people would have crumbled but not Nadia! On my own 220 mile round trip to the Fridge in Brixton I couldn't believe how quiet the roads were. There was less traffic going into London than I have ever seen before. It gave me real cause for concern but I shouldn't have bothered as the queue, which started at 8 O'clock, was absolutely huge 6 to 8 deep and stretching right around the corner. And they were the ones without tickets!!

Once in, the atmosphere was one of very high expectation and boy did they deliver. With Djs incl. D.F.Q., Steve Thomas, Dave Randall & Karim it was always going to be a blinder. And amongst all this mayhem, there was Weirdo (real name Dom Harding). He's a pretty shy, retiring type of a chap, who doesn't drink or smoke or take drugs and rarely goes clubbing (weird). So how would he cope with all this madness? Well the words duck and water spring to mind. He just took it all in his stride.

And when he played "Say Yes (If you understand me)" and the house lights came on it was like a moment frozen in time as we all realised what a special event we were part of. The lights dipped and we were treated to all the hoovers and riffs that have made him famous. Classics such as "Curva Peligrosa" & "Photic Zone". Also new tracks "Hoover Time" & Disco Outlaws "Big Boy" that received huge cheers again from the supercharged Superfish Clubbers.

The one and a half hour live set reached its staggering climax with the Captain's own Happy Birthday tune and the Fridge became awash with thousands of enormous balloons, glitter, streamers and fireworks. This night was fast becoming the most outstanding night of my 18 year clubbing career & we still had Dave Randall and Karim to go...

Research by Carl from Queeer in Cheltenham

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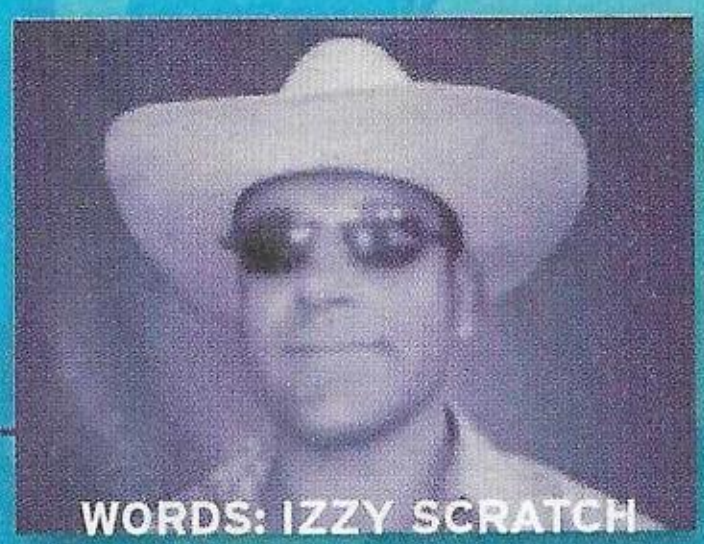
PAUL SHUREY

TRIBAL GATHERING & UNIVERSE



WORDS: IZZY SCRATCH

During the early to mid nineties, long before the existence of Creamfields and Homelands, the Tribal Gathering and Universe dance parties were amongst the most spectacular and groundbreaking events of their day. Now, the pioneering promoter behind these events, Paul Shurey, has returned to clubland, after a two year break, with new night Frontier Spirit.

As well as welcoming Paul Shurey back to clubland, Upfront finds out why he disappeared and what he's been up to for the last two years!

Way back in the days when it was nigh on impossible to obtain a licence for any rave related event Paul Shurey organised his first legal party. '91 was the year, Universe was the name and 5,000 amazed party people were there. The first Tribal Gathering took place two years later in '93 attended by approx. 23,000. Tribal Gathering united a range of different musical styles on a massive scale and aimed to capture a spirit of oneness. According to Shurey it was the first world-wide party of its kind. "It was the first dance event that was a global party, with write ups everywhere from Australia to Japan. The parties were about breaking down barriers" he says.

The event can also be credited with bringing the revered electronic band Kraftwerk out of retirement in '96. "It was the first time Kraftwerk had played anywhere for four to six years." says Paul "All the top DJs like Jeff Mills saw them with the crowd as Kraftwerk refused to let anyone back stage." Ritchie Hawtin, Hardfloor, Dave Clarke and Andy Weatherall were amongst the many other class acts that played.

Such achievements were marred by problems however. In 1995, Universe signed a contract with the Mean Fiddler and together they hosted the fifth and last Tribal Gathering in 1997, attended by approx. 45,000. "In 1994 raving and dance music was a dirty word so even though we had proven our ability to organise events we knew it would be impossible to get a licence. Mean Fiddler had the experience and were a rock and roll organisation and so could get the licence we needed." says Paul.

But by 1998, at the end of their contract with the Mean Fiddler, the two sides fell out over the rights to the name "Tribal Gathering". A legal battle followed which was settled out of court. As part of the settlement Shurey was able to continue using the Tribal Gathering name but would have to pay Mean Fiddler for using it for the following three years.

Worse was yet to come, Shurey was unable to host his Final Frontier night at the Complex in London as the venue was owned by the Mean Fiddler and Universe '98 party had to be cancelled following poor ticket sales. Completely disillusioned, Shurey left the country for Mexico where he worked in a beach resort, only returning to Britain after his brother was taken ill. Universe continues today and recently went on a twenty three date tour. However the event was not organised by Shurey but by Allan Shulman who joined Universe before the problems with Mean Fiddler began.

But now he's back with a new night Frontier Spirit. The club has already featured an impressive selection of Djs. Residents Dave Angel, Free Party/Spiral Tribe legend Aztek (recently released from Her Majesty's Pleasure) and Simon Shurey have been joined by the likes of Billy Nasty, the Liberator DJs, Get Fucked crew (Nils Hess & Nathan Coles), Grant from Massive Attack and a guest MC appearance from TV person Craig Charles.

The DJs booked to play have been carefully chosen. As Paul says "The big ego DJ has gone too far. At times DJs are taking 80-90% of the door money, making clubbing the antithesis of how it all began. In the beginning, DJs were important in helping to create the atmosphere, but they weren't the sole focus of attention. Now the DJ is like a rock star where people concentrate solely on the them. The people we've chosen are happy that the attention will be on other aspects too." This belief ties in with Shurey's aim to make the crowd the most important feature of Frontier Spirit. "In the early days of raving, everyone was equal. People were there to communicate with each other, not just to say they saw a superstar DJ. We want to reflect this at Frontier Spirit". To fulfil this aim as much attention has been paid to lasers, visuals and performers as well as the DJs.

Future projects include Ex Arts, a festival that Shurey hopes to host next summer in a 55 acre former quarry. "It'll be free and music will be just one of many elements" says Paul "There'll be installation art, a stone circle and it will be like an adventure playground for adults. One of our ambitions is for it to be like an English version of America's Burning Man festival".

So the man who fought the authorities in the nineties in the name of rave is back and now he's fighting the fat cats of dance. Shurey has no plans for any further Tribal Gathering type events and for now he's more than happy to concentrate his energy into Frontier Spirit and Ex Arts. As Shurey himself explains "Events like Tribal Gathering have become all about money and money dictates whether or not a DJ will play. For me it's not about cash".

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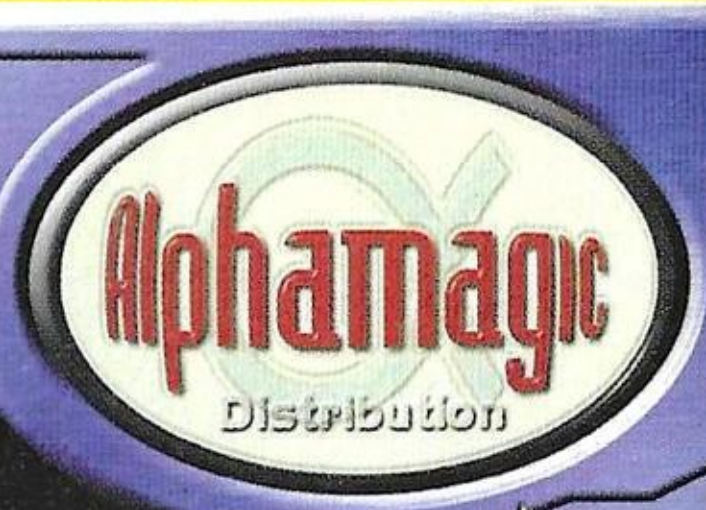

NEW/RECENT RELEASES

TECKNO KINGS 'Baby Doc Remix' (SHOCK 1050)
ANDY FARLEY 'Stop Rocking' (AMOK 015)
SOL RAY & RUBEC 'The X-ecutioner' (SOLAR 003)
MADAM ZU 'Traffik' (AZTEC 009)
DYNAMIC INTERVENTION vs THE PRANKSTERS (DIP1230311)
LISA PIN-UP/MODELLE/ELVIRA 'Another Jam' (RHR 005)
SOL RAY vs DYNAMIC INTERVENTION 'Goin' Insane' (KATALYST KAT005)
CHAMPION BURNS 'Get It Right' (SUCK DISCS SUC10)
RUBEK vs ORANGE PEEL 'Bitches & Money' (PIG 010)
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ROB BURNS

Does humour belong in music? This is a question I have asked myself many times, it is also a question I asked Rob Burns towards the end of our phone conversation. He gave me his answer and much more besides.

Rob's first forays into music and record collecting go back at least 25 years to the New Romantics, but his introduction to the dance scene came with the first round of infamous M25 parties which, in his own words, "completely blew me away. A friend asked me if I would like to get in his car and drive to this party, we drove for what seemed like hours and ended up in a field with 10,000 people just 'avin it, it was a great experience. I never looked back"

After a period of, what Rob describes as, being a basic punter-clubber, toying briefly with the then, all powerful, Hardcore scene he ended up knocking around with N-Joi and the Prodigy where he met, current production partner, Nigel Champion and got a taste for the whole spectacle of the live dance show. After that, becoming a little disillusioned with the darker direction of the emerging jungle style, he got into some housier stuff, going up to London and enjoying the more underground side of things with nights like The Love Ranch and Boys Own parties.

Rob has developed a reputation over the last 6 months, with partner in crime Nigel Champion, as a fine dance producer and I was keen to find out if he had any aspirations as a DJ. He told me "I did do some DJing in the early 90's and then I met my girlfriend Jan 'Madame Friction' who had something on the decks that I just didn't, so I decided to back her instead and we set up Friction Burns and co-produced 15 tracks together including some with "BK" (Ben Keen, now with Nukleuz). Now that my profile as a producer has risen we, myself and Nigel Champion (collaborator on the Champion Burns releases) are getting some pressure to DJ again with some serious money and exotic locations providing serious incentives."

Rob makes no bones about the fact that producing is firmly where his energy is being directed at the moment. "Me and Nigel have been super productive, over the last 4 or 5 months we have put down 35 tracks and hope to make it 50 by Christmas. Then there are a couple or so compilation CD's that we would like to get out in the new year one for a Madame Friction Friction Burns show case and one to raise the profile of Champion Burns as a creative force."

Future releases to look out for on Rob's new label "Third Degree Burns" include, at the end of November, "Big Bad City" and "Reality" whilst on sister label Suck Discs there will be "Get it Right". Along with the increase in profile has come some nice re-mix work including a Rude Boys track "Rock to the Rhythm", which has gained extensive air play on Dave Pearce's Dance anthems radio show, and an upcoming rework of a Roger Sanchez track for Eric Morillo's "Subliminal" label, not to mention "Rockhard 2000" licensed to Nukleuz Red and "Sweat's Really Up" on DP - Rob has a busy future.

Looking back over the last year Rob has seen a definite upturn in his fortunes. "This last 6 months has been really confirming for me" he said, " I always maintained that I was in this business for the enjoyment, but there comes a time when your enjoyment has to start paying the bills and the last 12 months has seen it's ups and downs and disappointments. The real headache is selling and promoting the records we produce and it was with this in mind that I decided to hand over the running of Friction Burns to Madame Friction so that I can concentrate on Suck and Third Degree. Now that the money has started to come it's even better. I have had advances from Big Labels Like V2 and Sony for tracks in a more commercial Tek-disco style and it's starting to put me in the position of thinking about having to employ people"

Rob seems to be fairly unique, in that he does not confine himself to one genre but likes to keep fresh by crossing boundaries, from say the cheeky-bouncy hard house he puts out on Friction Burns, to the darker, harder, pumpin, funky hard house on Third Degree Burns and the bouncy quirky but, most definitely, funky disco oriented material on Suck Discs. All this variety helps him to retain creativity and the sense of fun which pervades his music.

So, does humour belong in music? I'll let Rob put it for you. "Of course it does, it was the reason we got into this business and I hope that it shows through in the upfront and cheeky music that I love to make." I, for one, think it does.

WORDS: GREG "RABBIT" EYNON

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DAN BASELEY CHATS TO...

THE STIMULANT DJ S

Both **Paul 'Brisk' Nineham** and **Hamilton Dean 'Ham'** have been mixing and producing high octane Hardcore and breakbeats for around 7 years and in 1996 they decided to join forces and form Next Generation Records and Blatant Beats.

After stamping their ground in the Hardcore scene and selling an obscene 200,000 units worldwide to their loyal fan-base they felt 1999 was a good time to spread their wings and form the fantastic "Stimulant Records". At first this was a new avenue originally designed to release pumping club trance but as they were soon to realise the naughtier harder sound of Hard House was waiting just around the corner!

After just 8 releases the foundations were set and it wasn't long before they were producing and re-mixing their unique hi-impact sound for the likes of Tidy Trax and Nukleuz. Now on their 12th release we thought it was about time we pestered them into telling us a little more about themselves, the label and their general misbehaviour.

Who influences you?

Tidy Boys, Paul Janes, BK, Oliver the Ape, Mauro Picotto and Slipmatt (SL2) back in the day.

Why would people buy your music?

That's a difficult question, haven't got a clue, it's really up to the people to decide that, as we write it for them and they're the ones that buy it.

Do you remix for cash or quality?

Quality, definitely "you can't polish a turd"

In your opinion who is rockin the clubs at the moment?

Tidy Boys, Lee Haslam, Andy Farley, Ian M, Daniel 'Billy' Bunter, BK and Karim.

Are you the best of Buddies?

The amount of time we spend in the studio together of course you'll get friction, but there's an unspoken bond.

"I will say no more boys!!"

What annoys you?

Phones going off in the studio, musical politics, Sunday drivers and the fucking M25!!

Does your studio have a bar?

No we both have to drive back an hour and a half every night, but the ashtrays are filled with roaches and we drink far too much coffee, it's where stimulant comes from you see.

"Hmmmmm I see?!"

Do you have studio complexion?

This time of the year we do, our studio hasn't even got a window!!!

Best tune ever?

Ham: Edge 1

Paul: Misja and Tims Access has never left my box but that's too hard to answer.

Who would play at your perfect party?

All of the aforementioned DJ's + Ali G, Dave Lee Travis, Fat Boy Slim, Leftfield, Carl Cox, Roni Size, Krust and the Scratch Perverts.

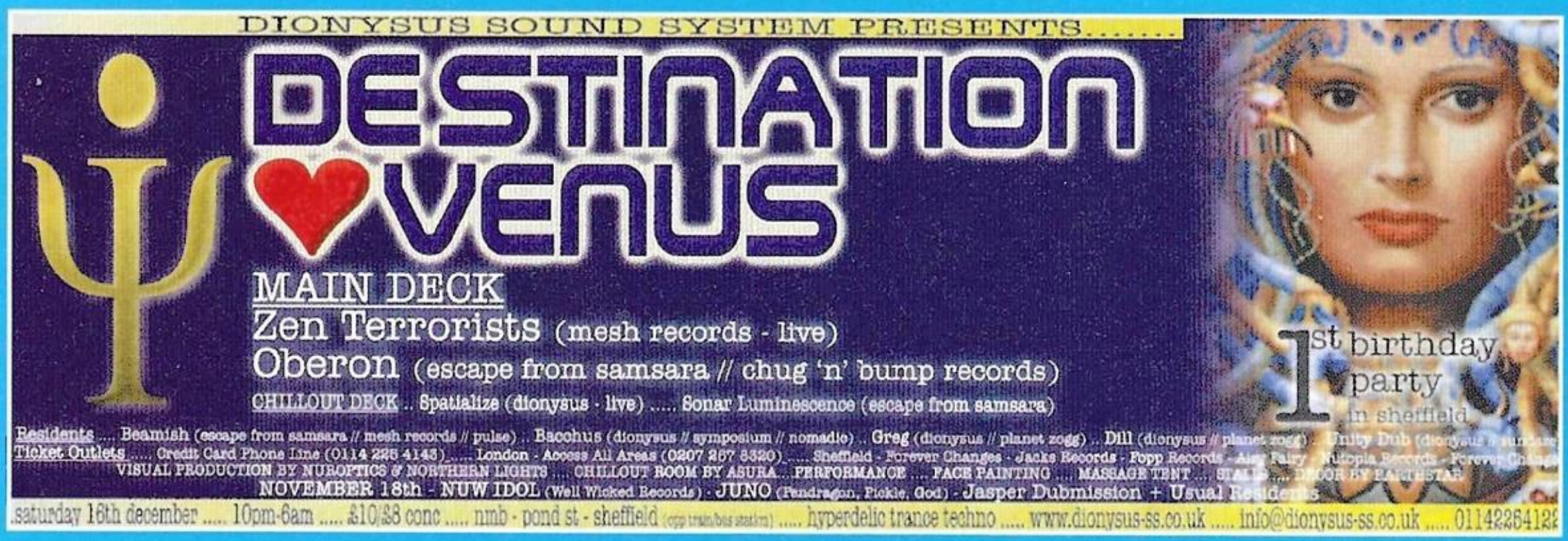
What does the future have in store?

We want to cover all aspects of hard house, possibly sign up a few more acts it's really another building year, but there may be a mix album on the way soon, so keep your eyes peeled!!

Thanks very much guys, do you have anything more you would like to add?

Definitely, we would like to say a big thank you to our girlfriends Maxine and Marisa for putting up with our long hours and stress and to everyone @ Tidy Trax for all of their support!!

Well that's mighty Christian of you and may I add if anyone out there would like to know more about the adventures of Stimulant Records, or would like to visit their discussion room, you can log on at: **stimulantrecords.co.uk** - "and a damn fine site it is too!"



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It's a well known fact that techno is a universal language and these days you're as likely to get brilliant tracks from Latvia as from London. One of the artists at the forefront of this different type of European integration is one Spanish senor, Cristian Varela, who over the past few years has developed into an artist, producer and DJ to be reckoned with. So, with a debut album and new label in the offing, UpFront's Nick Sonic decided it was a prime time to have a trans-european email chat to find out more about the super-Spaniard...

NS: How would you describe your "sound"? The first track of yours I heard was the "Groovy Wavedrums EP" on Primate and it came across as hard tribal techno.

CV: "Groovy Wavedrums" was my first release for Primate and I was really excited with it, although I wish I'd had a bit more time to devote to it. In my opinion to develop a musical composition to its optimum level you have to spend a certain minimum of hours, and sometimes I just don't have that time. Anyway, my sound is very tribal as I concentrate on the percussion. But what I really want in my music is a similar kind of depth, brightness, and more than anything, soul and feeling.

NS: Your first big break was a remix of "Control" on Stay Up Forever. Tell us about that.

CV: That was an unforgettable experience because it was my first remix for a non-Spanish label, and to do it for such a quality label as SUF was brilliant. It all started at one of the gigs we [The Liberators, bosses of SUF] were playing at together. Chris Liberator asked me to do a mix and fortunately, he really liked it. It was very positive for both me and my career.

NS: How did you get into techno?

CV: My brother Luis gave me a Kraftwerk album for my 12th birthday and after that I was hooked. At that time I was mad about classical music and played the piano all day long, so as you can probably imagine it came as big shock to me. Three years later I started to DJ with Luis at a club called Zabanda and soon I was playing at clubs and festivals all over Spain, and since the mid-90's across the world.

NS: Things are really taking off for you now. Why do you think that success has come at this time?

CV: I've been working hard as both DJ and producer for years, and although it is hard work, I love my job. You have to have a passion for it.

NS: What goes into a Cristian Varela track?

CV: Like my DJ'ing my main aim is to try and transmit a lot of positive energy through my music. However, despite the opinions of a lot of people, it takes a lot of time to make techno. I find it really difficult to find the time as I have my record shop (Phrenetic Society), my DJ school & agency and the bimonthly techno festivals which I organise. So it means there's not much time left for the studio or for sleeping! But when I do get the chance I just let my imagination fly and it all falls into place. I love percussion and spend hours racking my brains and burning the parameters of my synths to find new sounds. The effects are also really important so I spend ages assigning them to really specific sounds to make the whole track even more energetic. However sometimes I go totally over the top and it sounds completely the opposite of what I wanted.

NS: Who's making great music for you at the moment?

CV: Artists like Richie Hawtin, The Surgeon, Oliver Ho and Adam Beyer - I think they're doing great stuff.

NS: Tell us about your new album.

CV: It's called "The New Electronic Audio Architectures" and it should be out by November. I've worked really hard on it to make sure that it'll sound totally new and fresh and it will be very varied with ambient, electro, and tech-house influences, as well as of course having plenty of hard and groovy tracks on it. I've tried to innovate as much as possible within each of those styles to make them experimental, without losing the original feeling and energy. I hope you like it...

NS: What are your plans for the coming year and how do you see your music evolving?

CV: I'm starting my own label "Phrenetic Productions" that will be distributed by Prime, and I've also got releases coming out on Marco Corola's label "Session Rec" & Johan Bacto's "Zync". As for my music, I want it to become even more experimental and cutting-edge.

NS: Finally, you always thank your "Crazy Mother" on your releases. Why is she crazy?!

CV: Apart from my father and brother she's the only person who understands me, as well as being totally mad!

WORDS: NICK SONIC

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Return to the Source are that rare thing - an underground brand name. However, unlike their contemporaries in the mainstream they are still doing the business creatively whilst maintaining their credibility. Even very casual listeners to dance music are likely to be aware of the name and it's to their credit that six years down the line they can still be relied upon to put on superb nights that fill Brixton Academy and release quality vinyl and CDs. Now in a new venue, with an additional club night, a set of fresh releases and a monster New Years Eve bash planned at the aforementioned Academy, it seemed like a good time to talk to Phil Ross at RTTS to find out how they do it...

Going back to the beginning, how did RTTS come about?

It was the result of a benefit party held at the Dome, a venue run by myself and Janice Duncan at that time, in Tufnell Park in '94. Chris Decker put on the benefit. Mark Allen and Tsuyoshi DJ-ed (they were signing on then). From this our idea was to create an indoor festival atmosphere, with no dress or behaviour codes, a combination of trance and chilled out vibes, massage, stalls, performers and amazing UV fluros decor. A mix of all cultures under one roof united by the music and the atmosphere celebrating the sacred dance of life.

When did you realise that RTTS would be more than just another party night?

It was Oct 95 - the first time we did Brixton Academy - we had expected a few thousand people - the show sold out, with queues around the block. It was breathtaking, we were staggered. Standing on the balcony looking out over everyone really getting into it was an amazing feeling - although also quite scary, as we didn't know how, or if, we would be able to sustain this level of success in the future.

Moving up to the present - how did the involvement with Cloud 9 (club in Vauxhall that RTTS team are running) come about and how's it going?

Myself and Janice had promoted Science Fiction parties at Cloud 9 before with Sid Shanti and it had been offered to us, but the timing was right this year. The parties are going from strength to strength there. Catch 23 has really taken off. There are different promoters every Friday. Recent sell out parties have included Enlightenment and Eurobeat 2000 and other regular promoters include Tribal, Synergy and Tsunami.

There seems to have been a bit of a split in the underground, especially in London, with parties like Pendragon going one way and the other more psychedelic parties going another. Any thoughts?

We don't really think that this is the case. We feel there is more of a crossover nowadays with the party goers. We have seen this especially in Catch 23 where people will dance to several kinds of trance where as in the past their tastes would be more specialised. People go to parties with a more open mind than they used to and they understand more what the individual djs are about.

RTTS seems to do quite well at not being perceived to heavily as one or the other? Any thoughts on this and how you have managed to stay fresh and ever popular?

A good reputation with the public, good production and a philosophy of putting on a diverse selection of acts, even when we catered to a purely psy-trance audience. This allows us to please a wide spectrum of party-goers with radically different tastes in trance music.

Current acts/DJs that have particularly impressed you?

Chrisbo comes to mind immediately...he's been playing around the world for years now and to be quite frank he is hugely under-rated, Blu Peter shit hot too... Baraka has been sending the crowds wild at recent Source parties and Jamie Robinson is a name to watch out for in the future and Beamish & Oberon...sublime.

How is the record side of things going?

It's going really well and we're looking for a label manager with experience and computer skills (CVs to phil@rtts.com). Releases in the pipeline include an album and 12 inch from Dogma 3000 (see Upfront news section), the continuation of the Catch 23 label and a mix CD by Chrisbo entitled "Travel Bug". (Which hopefully made it into the album reviews-Ed)

And any final thoughts?

I really want the World to be a better place. I think planting thousands of trees in desert areas would help make the planet a better place, shaking off the shackles...lots more...

...but sadly time beats us all, and there, space dictates, we'll have to leave it!

Many thanx to John Muir of the Dionysus Sound System and Destination Venus in Sheffield, who at very short notice, due the magazines increase in pages, put this interview together.

WORDS: PHIL ROSS

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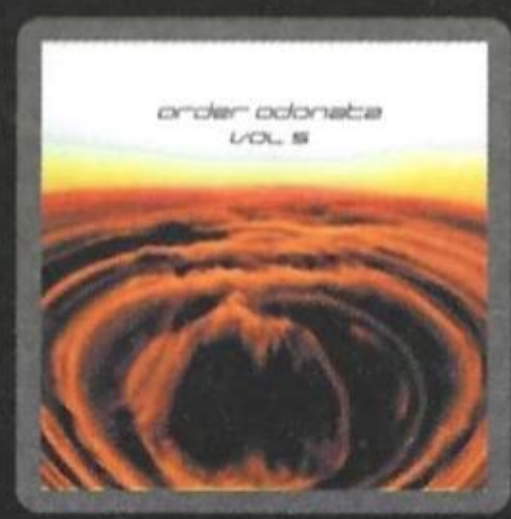

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SEEING THINGS CLEARLY

WORDS: LINZI

Having been totally blown away by the new Talamasca album, and following a brief and rather sketchy apres-Boom meeting with Christof at Lisbon airport, the powers that be decided that a journey into the world of, the Paris based Psychedelic Trance label, 3-D Vision was long overdue.

First, a brief history:

Head boy and label manager Christof got the bug when he was given his first keyboard aged 8. Moving on a few years, to the early 90's he got into the Psychedelic scene. By this time he was producing new wave/electronic music but realised that this new sound was the way forward for him.

From a meeting with kindred-spirit Dado, Transwave was born and between '94-96 the duo released a box full of classics including the awesome "Rezwalker". There was even an appearance on MTV, not exactly common for the Psy Trance genre! When Transwave reached a natural conclusion in '96, Christof was already getting ideas for a full-on Psychedelic Trance label and after meeting Cedric (DJ Lestat/Talamasca) and Matt (DJ Matt), his label partners, in that same year, they decided to go for it. The result - 3-D Vision.

From their first release, "Indigo" by Absolum (Christof's alter-ego) in '98, right up to the aforementioned Talamasca album "Beyond The Mask" and the newly released compilation entitled "Download", 3-D have put out a steady stream of quality Psychedelic Trance.

This in mind, my first question to Christof was his view on the great Psychedelic vs Progressive debate?

"3-D is full-on Psychedelic and we don't want to change! We are proud of it. If we did want to release something different, maybe we would do it under another name."

About the scene in general in France at the moment, Christof was not quite so positive. He explained:

"Back in '93 & '94 we were having the biggest parties with 5,000 people and the biggest DJ's. But some promoters seemed more interested in making money than in the spirit of the music so things changed"

By his own admission, nowadays Paris is not exactly Psy trance central. The free party scene is very much in the Hardcore nosebleed Techno camp and the weekly Trance events by the more money minded promoters miss the mark by combining nights with House or Techno so the true party people have stopped going.

I asked what parties were pushing his buttons?

"For me it's Brazil everytime. I was there in June/July and played 4 times. The people are amazing and passionate about music. And for craziness, it has to be Japan!"

On the subject of craziness, I mentioned the e-word and asked when was the last time Christof had indulged?

"Not anymore, no drugs for me! I haven't done anything other than smoke in about 4 years. I really don't mind what anyone else does, it's just my choice." He added "I do smoke a lot though!"

Having just spent a very intense 3 weeks in the studio putting together most of the next Absolum album, which contains all brand new material (due out in the new year), **I asked him where he got his inspiration?**

"Always from travelling. It fuels my mind. I get inspired when I go away and I get some nice ideas in my heart and my mind".

And how had he enjoyed the Boom festival?

"It was good being part of that whole Trance village thing. Also, I met a lot of friends from all over the world that I hadn't seen in a long time. It was like a Trance Conference!"

And the musical choice for those quieter moments when he wasn't working?

"I always listen to something slow beat. Trip Hop, that sort of thing. When I've been in the studio all day I just want to chill out. At the moment my favourite is "Sub Surfing" by Frozen Ants or The Orb".

Finally, I asked Christof where he saw himself in 5 years.

"Very far from France, from Europe even. I don't see the Psy Trance scene here improving but I feel that, for now, we are just at the beginning of what we are doing so I think that we will be here for a while. But in my dreams, I would like to be in a studio where I can look out onto the beach!"

So if you want to see things more clearly, get yourself some 3-D Vision!

WORDS: SOL RAY

JamX de Leon

After spending the best part of the last two years searching every corner of the known universe for their amazin music via various German distributors, failed web searches and surreal pigeon English phone conversations we've finally managed to track down JamX & De Leon to organise their first ever UK interview - well knock me down with an offbeat bassline and call it Scooptastic mate! So armed with a fistful of cold Buds and a head full of questions I set about unravelling the two years worth of history/mystery that surrounds the JamX/De Leon/DuMonde experience.

Juergen (JamX) and Dominik (De Leon) met in the summer of '94 at a techno club in Frankfurt. They hit it off immediately and decided to set up a studio in a basement in their hometown of Koblenz (yes, you know that well known centre of the trance universe!) halfway between Cologne and Frankfurt. Here they recorded their first collaboration which came out on X-It records. After this came a string of releases with some of Germany's biggest trance/techno label pioneers like Tetsuo and EDM. (Perhaps I should try to clear something up here... when "they" say Techno they are referring to what we called Trance and when I say Trance it's what they would've called Techno but only in the old skool sense, not as we know Trance to be now because they call that Trance too and so do we. I think that's it. Anyway there's some transeuro interpretational timewarp headf*ck goin' on so,I'll move swiftly on!!).

Previous to all this Juergen had DJ'ed for years spinning Hip Hop, R n'B & Soul. When I asked him where his influences came from he told me, "I've always been into soulful funk and vocals but when I met Dominik the techno (trance) sound was happening in Germany. We were playing stuff from labels like Sven Vath's Eye Q, so this is the style we began with. I have around 25,000 tracks on dat and vinyl from Motown thru 80s funk from way back. That's where my roots lie." So what's this Diana Ross meets 303 in head on acid collision? Sure to mess yer perm up that is eh! Stranger and stranger!

They've always worked together exploring a massive range of production styles. In '96 they had tracks out on the classic US House label Strictly Rhythm and also remixed chart toppers Reel 2 Real... er... Yes do not adjust your set - Reel 2 Real! I told you it was a mystery!

Next up in '97 came the DuMonde venture, set up with mutual friend Rene Dumont and intended as a trancier crossover project. They recorded a track called 'Tomorrow'. It's an epic jaw dropping blissed up juggernaut of a trancer, take it from me. (Now being re-released in the UK on Virgin and sure to bring these boys more into the limelight). Juergen tells me "We did the track and released it in Germany. A well known DJ called Talla 2XLC was playing it at massive raves and everyone was going crazy. So we were very pleased to meet him and do some trax for his labels." Dominik also told me "We had a call from Kevin Robinson from Positiva after this release. He was the first person in the UK to link up with us and we've done a lot of work with him." more on that later...

'98 saw them returning to the studio again with Rene and they created the next DuMonde track 'See The Light'. Yet another mammoth synth driven skyscraper that also rocked the underground German scene. They both feel that 'See The Light' is sort of old news for them and that it's kinda done its thing. "It's now three years old and we've moved on from there". Which shows just how far ahead they were then! It still finds it's way into my box and has just been re-released on Nebula records in the UK with new mixes.

In '99 the lads really got their heads down in the studio. Dominik states "We wanted to get a remix formula going so we would get it right". Prolific would be putting it mildly for their output in '99. 24 remixes in total. Juergen recalls, "A real high point, and also honour for us, was remixing 'Binary Finary'. Our remix sold 12,000 copies in the first two weeks of January last year, but it still didn't chart which is a bit puzzling. Then of course we did Alice DeeJay's 'Better Off Alone'. We had hundreds of enquiries because of this."

a.k.a. dumonde

JAMX & DE LEON

a.k.a. DuMonde

You'll definitely be wondering what these guys are doing in this underground dance publication now? And yes at first glance the track record screams no it can't be true! but fear not, all will now be revealed...

At the same time as all this was going on 'See The Light' was riding high in the German radio play lists along with another track they'd produced on their newly formed Chaos Records imprint. 'Das Licht' which is another kettle of fish altogether! Here is where their production style really begins to diversify. The Chaos sound is as futuristically 'out there' and as underground as trance gets, but still manages to retain the super clean production levels that you'd expect from these guys. They are now up to release number 12 on the Chaos label and let me tell you that all of the releases, that I've been able to get hold of, have been devastating audiences all over the world whenever I've played them. Constantly innovative and exceptionally bangin, travel to the hard side of Picotto then take a few steps beyond. You've gotta hear 'em to believe 'em!

On their sound Juergen says "The rhythmics must be strong". Dominik interjects and says "Juergen hears things in the music. He'll reach into his box of tricks, pull out something completely different from what we're doing but some how the vibe will be right. Then we'll take the essence of it for the track."

Always operating together as producers Jam X and De Leon keep a sharp eye on all the material that comes thru their studio and as for their own work the sonix are unmistakable.

When I met them they'd just been n the studio with Stuart Lange (something large n trancey is comin this way, no doubt!) who's recently remixed 'Tomorrow' for Virgin. When the rerelease on Virgin was arranged and remixes were being organised DuMonde had a chance to ask some of the people they respected in the business to remix their track for them, an experience they found interesting and a little nerve racking. Rumour has it that Rob Searle returned the dat to them saying he couldn't do the remix cos there was no way it could be improved and DJ Tiesto, who initially said he was way too busy to do anymore remixes, was straight back on the phone when he realised what the track was, but he was too late cos all the mixes had been confirmed.

The night after I met them they were both due to play their first ever DJ gig in the UK at the Fridge, Brixton for Pendragon. This is totally amazin since they both play out every weekend all over the world!! And what's even more amazin is they were thoughtful about the experience and hoped they would go down well. Which is an insight into their psyche, no egotistical business going on here then!! I've since spoken to Pendragon promoter and Dj Mark Sinclair who told me they'd totally rocked it! No surprises there either and I've no doubt they'll be rocking it at other venues across the UK, frequently, when everyone catches up!!

On the go right now is the next DuMonde track 'Never Look Back'. There's obviously more production, remix and DJ work happening for them around the planet and they hope it takes off for them here, in the UK, too.

One of the fascinating things about these guys is their ability to create the most sublime pieces of awesomely hard searing brain stretchin' trance and then with a flip of the mindset, switch and then remix people like Reel 2 Real and the Vengaboys, whilst still managing to keep their cutting edge sound. Hearing is believing!

So there it is two sorted geezers with a deep love of what they do. I reckon it's well worth keepin your ears open for em' cos hopefully they'll be coming your way soon.

Sol Ray

To find out more about them check their website on: www.dumonde.de

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GEEZER

People just can't get enough of Guy McAffer. From Carl Cox to London squat party heads, to gigs in Venezuela & Japan, Guy aka the Geezer is hot property. This year alone he's released over 100 records making him one of the most prolific and, arguably, one of the most talented artists currently working in this country.

"I've always been into music" says Guy. "Even before I was involved with Back to the Planet". Before turning his hand to techno Guy was part of the festival band, Back to the Planet. Formed in '89 Guy's achievements with the band included appearing on the front cover of both NME and Melody Maker and playing in front of 25,000 people at Glastonbury. During his 8 years with the group he was always interested in dance music and was still in the band when he released his first "banging" acid techno tune "Silver Surfer" under the name Timestretch Armstrong.

The Timestretch Armstrong release, Stay Up Forever no. 14, was a collaboration between Guy and, another Back to the Planet member, Henry, aka D.A.V.E. the Drummer. It was a success selling just under 2000 copies. "The track was easy to make," says Guy "and from it I got work straight away." When the band split in '97, Guy focused his talents towards dance music and began to release more tunes - like "Sonar" for example; a collaboration between Lawrie Immersion and Guy, under the name Sarcoblast. This track was released on the Routemaster label and went on to be used by Carl Cox on his compilation album, FACT 2.

'Raw', also in the Stay Up Forever stable, Guy's own label, was set up in May this year. The sound is funky hard acid techno with driving looped percussion and deep bass sounds. Guy himself defines Raw as Frontier techno. "It's the sort of music you'd hear played during or after a revolution." says Guy "Hard techno that's pushing forward the boundaries of music." So far, the label's had 4 releases including the funky little number Raw 2. Written by Guy and DJ Ant, it was the title track on Channel Four's tv coverage of Creamfields.

Whilst Raw has enabled Guy to make the sort of hard techno he loves, he's passionate about all sorts of music. From Frank Zappa to Meat Beat Manifesto to Ian Dury to the Specials, Guy says he listens to it all. He's also keen to experiment with different genres in the studio. "I like making all sorts of different music for the experience. I'll try anything. It's important not to limit yourself to one sound".

The dub techno label Jah Scoop started by Guy and Ben Balafonic is one project that's enabled Guy to explore different avenues of music. "The music on the label is quite 'avin it." he says "It's a mix of vocals, fat, pulsating, bass driving, percussive techno and delayed reggae stabs." So far the label's released two cheekily named tracks: Lock Dub Pts 1 & 2 and Urban Stepper and Lock Dub Pt 1 has been licensed to a major dub label Yoshitoshi Recordings. "The tunes can appeal to people who play quite deep techno or alternatively, they can be played slower for someone into dub." says Guy.

This willingness to experiment, combined with his canny ability to hit the spot musically, has meant that Guy's much in demand. Future projects include work for Infected, Intensive, Undercover Music and Eukatech as well as live gigs. Armed with a 909, two 303s, S300 TL sampler and his trusty Mac G3 laptop, Guy has taken his live set all over this country and the world. "The best bit about doing a live set is that you can manipulate the sound and see the atmosphere go off"

Since his early techno releases, Guy has never looked back. Over the past three years it's been a non stop whirlwind of gigs, parties, festivals and studio work. "It's been wicked and shit" says Guy. "Wicked because I get lots of personal satisfaction from making something good and there's nothing better, but it's shit cos it's really hard work".

The future looks set to be just as busy for Guy. Having recently moved from South to North London, he's itching to get his studio set up. He's also got plans for his labels. "I want to expand RAW and get it out there as much as possible. I also want to start a pure acid label with an old skool acid sound". He's also interested in the possibility of experimenting with different genres thereby furthering his passion for all types of music. "People in Venezuela have asked me to produce Salsa music and I'd love to do that!"

Carbine, Icepack Lost Disciple, Tarbul and Lungbutter and Pounding Grooves are just some of the aliases Guy has collaborated under.

WORDS: IZZY SCRATCH

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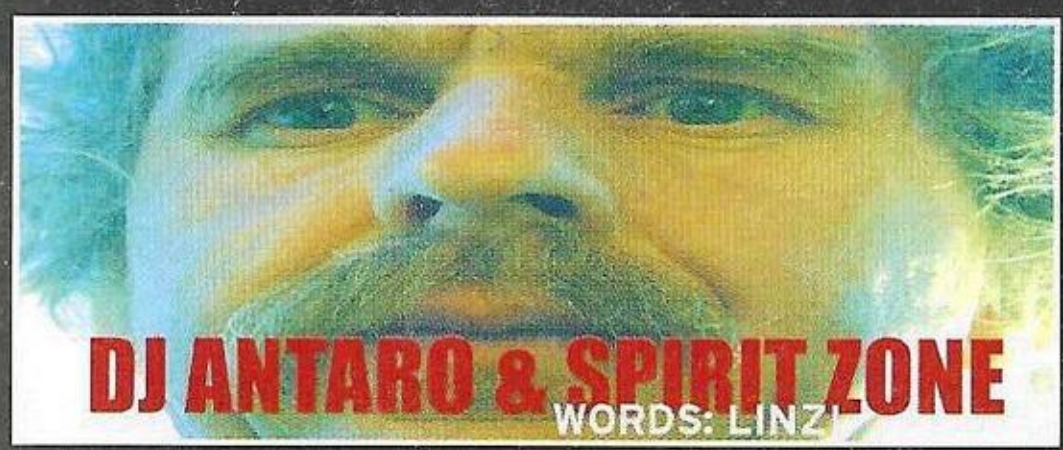

DJ ANTARO & SPIRIT ZONE

WORDS: LINZI

If you took part in the six days of madness that was Boom 2000, and if you made it as far as day four and managed to stagger to the dance Arena for around 10.00am on that Monday morning, you would have noticed a man of slightly more mature years taking to the decks. Then, along with about 5,000 others, you would have been treated to a set of 3 hours of truly awesome, pounding, inspirational Trance.

And the man responsible? His name is DJ Antaro and in between international appearances he also finds time to run Spirit Zone, the Hamburg based label, that has been releasing a constant stream of quality Trance since starting in '94.

Prior to this interview, during my background research I was amazed to learn that Religious Experiences by Space Tribe, a melodic, driving album, with more than its fair share of dance floor fillers, is Spirit Zones 85th release!

So how did he find time to fit it all in?

"There is only music in my life! I DJ every weekend, not only in Hamburg, but all over the world as well."

And how would you describe the scene in Hamburg?

"It's the best in the world, maybe next to Israel. It's very strong. There are 2 or 3 parties every weekend and we have the Voov festival"

How do you see the scene, worldwide at the moment?

"I think it's very healthy. About two years ago it wasn't so good but things have really picked up and I think this is mainly down to the music changing and branching out into different styles"

And would you describe the label as Psychedelic or Progressive?

"We are pretty much Progressive but both have their place and both are appreciated. Spirit Zone features all kinds of Trance"

Where did your inspiration come from to get started?

"Goa!, from the very beginning. I started to DJ and I was hooked"

And who's the oldest, you or Goa Gil?

"Ha! Laurent (another Psychedelic guru from Goa days) and Goa Gil inspired us all. I'm 47 but the thing I love about the scene is that it's dedicated to all ages. It really doesn't matter what age you are." (I agree heartily at this point, being no spring chicken myself!)

Finally, where do you think it's kicking off at present?

"Greece, Brazil, Mexico and of course, Hamburg!"

There's obviously no place like home for Antaro!

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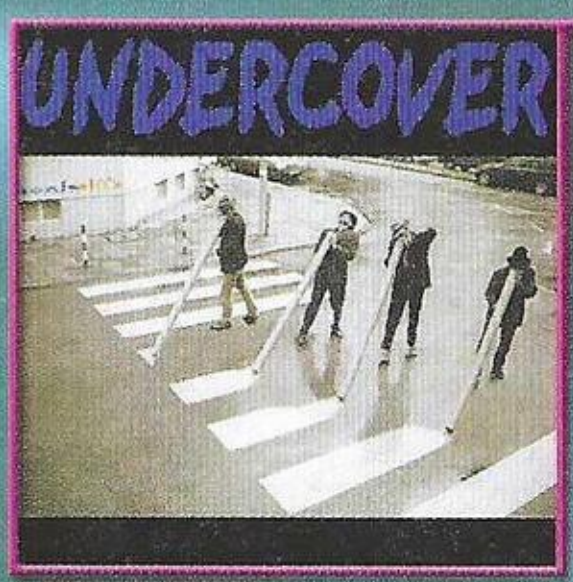

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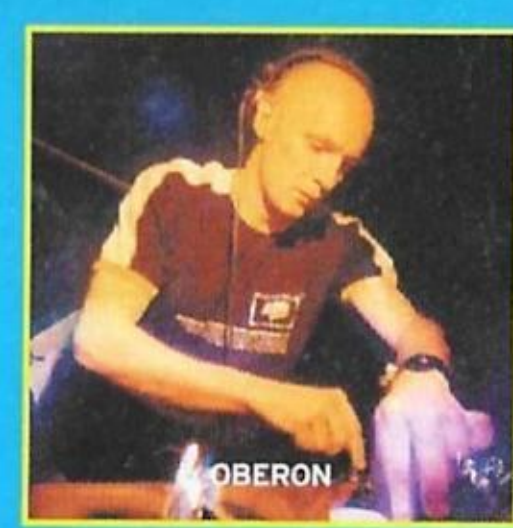

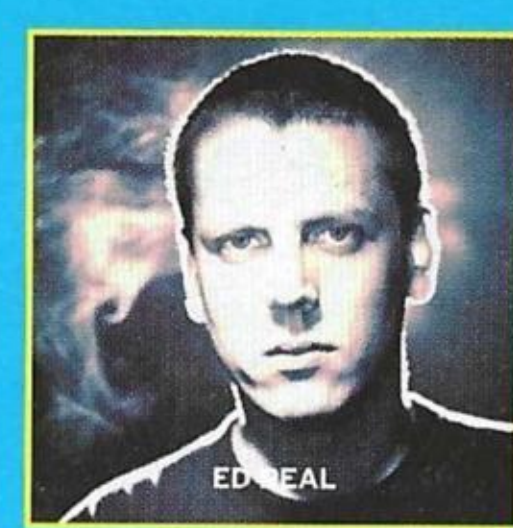

DARUDE - 'FEEL THE BEAT' (NEO)

Make no mistake the A side of this is aimed directly at the grin resplendent club massive. The production is faultless with a "stick in yer head" vocal and string vs analogue synth hooks vying for chart bound attention. Meanwhile on the flip, like a snake in the grass, lies a deadly funked fanged version from JS16, which somehow manages to disguise itself in the a side's woolly coat but gives all the hooky bits far more bite. **SR**

DJ'S BAS & RAM - 'CONSPIRACY EP' (MOVE) Dutch

Dr Real the deck detective found this little number on a recent trip to the 'Dam and after a road test at Cheeky Little Monkey declared it fit to travel! Three mixes to choose from and the Piledriver tops the heap with original sounds, samples and arrangement to tickle the fancy. Thank heaven for new ideas! **ER**

FICKLE TWINZ - 'MENTALISM' (FICKLE RECS)

2nd release on Acid Ted's Fickle imprint and everything is found in perfect, teeth clenched, harmony. The track begins unassumingly enough, clean pounding beatz and a phat n warm rollin' bass line. The whole thing begins to crank and split towards the drop whereupon 'Mentasm' mayhem is revisited once again. You just can't help smiling and yes, standing back in amazement as the track hits its peek, defies gravity (in a new skool/old skool stylee) and that's just the b side. How refreshing! **SR**

PAUL GLAZBY vs DYNAMIC INTERVENTION - 'WHO ARE YOU' (RECHARGE)

React's new hard house/nrg imprint launches itself into orbit with Insomniacz rez Paul Glazby who goes head to head here with, the man who never sleeps, Mik Cree. Chrome plated shiny fizzin beats and hoovers give us a no messin, straight for the jugular, ripper of a track, which rockets in and out of the drop. Not givin' us a chance to catch our breath before we're off on a hot coal steppa run to hard house Nirvana! As if that wasn't enuff we're treated to a Tinribized remix from Steve Thomas and The Captain himself - jaw droppingly large hard nrg. **SR**

HI ENERGY 3 - 'THE REBIRTH' (DYNAMIC TRAX) US

Having spent the last six months getting their head around 'that crazy Limey sound', California's Dynamic Trax crew are ready to take the battle across the pond and fight us on our own turf! Sounding like nothing I've ever heard (and that's a good thing folks!) the tracks contain the largest amount of bass this side of Thunder Ridge... New skool arrangement, old skool samples mean fun for all the family - if you can find a copy... **ER**

PB 2000 - 'IN DA JUNGLE' (U.S.O.A) Dutch

The legendary Orlando Voorn gets the hardclub treatment on United Sound Of Amsterdam's 100th release. Bypass the groovier trad. house mixes and head straight for The Crazy Drummer remix and you ain't gonna be disappointed; tough off-beat business with big old batacuda drums which build and build... Anything is possible in da jungle! Oh yes. **ER**

MADAM FRICTION - 'I'M ADDICTED' (SISTER SUCK)

Exploring a new avenue (for the label) the A side gives us an 'I feel Love' bassline meets old skool EyeQ trance meets the crazzee minds of the Friction Burns crew. Hypnotic deep and brilliant. The flip funks n trances out even more. An early morning sonic shower. **SR**

DON DIABLO - 'ELYSIUM' (REFUSE)

Time again for the Dutch to show us that they're not all soft cheese merchants. Elysium offers no respite from the banging beats and siren - like stabs, even the breakdown is peppered with old skool breakbeats; the aptly named 'Crowd Pleaser' on the flip is even heavier and more manic, yet another quality tune crossing the borders between Hard House, Hard Trance and Techno. **O**

911 - 'THE FOUR COMMITMENTS' (Z-MINOR) Dutch

If the reaction at our Nukleuz party at The Brixton Academy was anything to go by, then this is a smasheroony! Kind of Lock N Load but with heaps more bounce. This up tempo monster is a frolic through happy valley but without the need for a sickbag! **ER**

DURATION - 'GIVE THE DJ A BREAK' (VINYL INSIDE) Dutch

Jas Van Houten (possibly the funkiest man alive) goes head to head with The Shrink production team on this double A-side whopper. Van Houten's track does its thing in his groovy up-and-down stylee, but it is The Shrink's Moroder bassline's and Julio Iglesias (r u sure about this Ed?! - ed) stabs that really causes heads to turn on the 'floor. Have a go if you're man enough! Consider yourself told! **ER**

IRRLLCHTER - 'COME HOME MY CHILDREN' (REFRESHED)

Typical German Production this, smooth as silk; Uptempo, pounding beats and that oh-so familiar Euro Trance sound, normally I wouldn't look at this, but these guys have done such a clean job, it just can't be ignored - pitch it up to +6 and it rocks! Flip it over to find the lighter, bouncy mix with funky grooves thrown in for good measure. **O**

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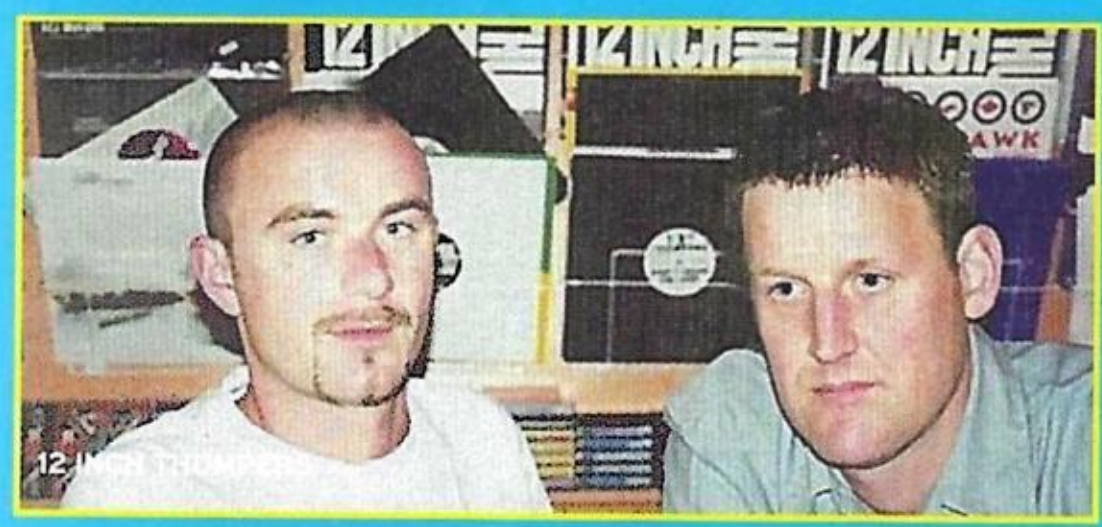


SINGLES

REVIEWERS: SOL RAY, ED REAL, OBERON & THE SAINT

SOL RAY & DYNAMIC INTERVENTION - 'DROP THIS' (E-TRAXX)

When these two team up (see Katalyst 5) you know what to expect - nothing less than pumpsville and fortunately for us - that's exactly what it is. The first tune has a heavy kick and equally heavy bassline which I can only akin to an elephant. And that's not all - great stabs and a good vocal hook make this a tune to rock any floor! The remix has a distinctly 'dirtier' feel, with added mental-ness incl. a spaced out vocal and acid stabs, along with a drop down and build up your mother would be proud of. All this makes it equally massive! **TS**

CARNAGE - 'DAMN HOUSE/FRICTION' (STIMULANT)

When I first heard this tune, I thought 'Oh my God - Klubbheads on speed!' It has their same bouncy appeal, except its sped up with an intense kick, but then the old skool stabs and hoovers kick in and all hell breaks loose. The second side 'Friction' offers an altogether fatter kick drum and less intense sound - but still grooves along nicely. A reworked version of Perpetual Motions 'Keep on Dancing', admittedly not the most original riff, but one to certainly keep the party rockin. **TS**

VAN GELDEREN - 'KONGA' (POL)

It's definitely the month of the Dutch Imports! Van Gelderen throws up two chunky... mixes here - the a-side ventures right into hard house territory with a Donna Summer style bass line and teasing, plucky percussion, big drum fills and a couple of filtered synth stabs set low in the mix, simple but highly effective; over to the other side for the pounding, deep and twisted trance mix - both mixes are a perfect example of how to make a top tune from the most basic of ingredients. **O**

FERGIE & BK - 'HOOVERS & HORNS' (NUKLEUZ)

Focusing on the Ingo mix, cos everyone's heard the original, haven't they? And what a mix it is! Everything this kid has done has been massive - who is he? Fat kicks, fat bouncy bass lines, wicked vocal hooks - what more can I say? This is the new kid on the block!

12 INCH THUMPERS - 'BACK ONCE AGAIN' (12 INCH THUMPERS)

I don't know what it is, but every time I play a tune by this lot the walls shake! If a super fat kick drum is your thing, then this is for you. I am sure you can guess from the title what the rap sample is, again not the most original, but it certainly works. The breakdown is pretty cool - there's even some breakbeat thrown in for good measure. One for the masses me thinks! **TS**

DJ DARIO & KC - 'UPRISING' (PARTY FREAKZ)

Coming out of Holland, this tune has it's roots planted firmly in Techno, pounding kick drums, lashing hi-hats, and a rolling bass line, the only let-up being the thirty seconds of mellow, classical violins; the flip gets even more minimal - perfect for those heads - down, no-nonsense moments. **O**

BISMARK - 'MAKE A DREAM' NUKLEUZ

Again Nukleuz deliver the goods with no. 8 in the 'Noise Maker' series; Bismark, unlike his namesake, is sure not to sink with this bouncy, repetitive number. 'Make My Dreams Reality' is what the man says just before the beats come rolling back with trademark Nukleuz riff. Simple effective layer building. On the b-side Franchino is in fine form with 'Calor' - hard-as-hell, uncompromising slice of acidic techno trance and Jakyro, 'Seven' - too off the wall even for the likes of me! **O**

SOL RAY vs THE SAINT - 'BETWEEN 4 & 6' (SOLAR TRAX)
Upfront crew raid the crates for some tuff hard house, meets nrg, meets fun packed mayhem!

LISA PIN UP/MODELLE/ELVIRA - 'ANOTHER JAM' (ROCK HARD)
Superfunked hard house stompster. Best for the label yet.

NUW IDOL & OBERON - 'BAG OF TRIX' (WELL WICKED)
Burstin' with ideas direct from the trance masters cave.

GARY B - 'PIPE SMOKER' (FREEZING POINT)
Tinribesque stabs, funky basslines. One for the explorers amongst you.

LAB 4 - 'YOU ARE THE ONE' (FRAGILE)
More... Yes, more titanium tipped trance (not hardcore!) with that crazee distorted thing in it!

MARK TYLER - 'THE CITY RMX ' (RE-ENTRY)
Genre bustin hard house vs techno slammer. Dynamic Intervention and Canada's Android join the global trancetek terrorist.

GIROTONDO - 'ULTIMATE FRONTIERS' (RECOVER)
K90 gets hot and funky remixing Pablo's Eve trance classic.

WAX MAN-CINI - 'DISCO BITCH' (HOT WAX)
Ingo Star, with a little help from his friends with an unstoppable Lincoln sausage pounder.

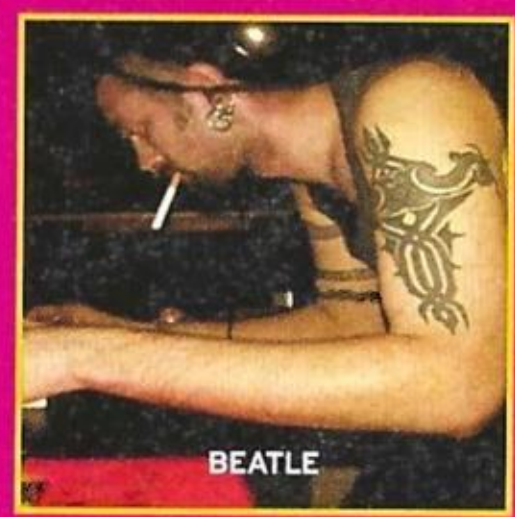
TONY HERON & TITCHY BITCH - 'U KNOW' (TITCHY BITCH)
Brilliantly scratched follow up to 'In ya Neighbourhood'. Cheeky hard house shaker.

WEIRDO - VINYL WARNING (TINRIB)
10,000 tons of trance nrg. Danger genius @ work!

TEKNO KINGS - 'ITS TIME/ECSTASY' (SHOCK)
50th release on Shock (Wow!). Welcome rmx from Baby Doc + a Brainbashers blinder.

THANKS TO ALL @ REPLAY, EVERYONE @ ALPHAMAGIC, ALL @ INFECTIOUS & NATHAN @ LEFT. A BIG SHOUT TO TIM & CREW @ SAMSARA, STUART @ CABBAGE, TRIBE OF FROG, NICK @ MINDSCAPES & ALL THE OTHER PARTY PEOPLE, DJs, PROMOTERS - U KNOW WHO YOU R - FOR SOME BLINDIN PARTIES!!

HAVOK 35


BEATLE

JULIAN LIBERATOR

STORTION/CLATTER - 'TENSILE E.P.' (UNKNOWN FORCES)

Second release from this new techno imprint, coming through with vibrant colours. The 'Tensile E.P.' delivers us four excellent strong techno missions all with precise powerful rhythms and a deep passion in their voice. Here the unknown forces are explaining the unexplainable and paving the way for more nu-skool underground techno coming through. Each track gets stronger under the wand of 'Stortion' as the E.P. progresses ending in a full-on unbreakable remix of 'S-001' by Clatter giving us a marathon ending. Gz

GUY McAFFER & DAVE PREECE - NO TITLE (RAW)

Fourth release from this strong, funky label with more 'Ripe Analogue Waveforms' - this time from the Geezer himself - Guy McAffer - and Bristol music producer Dave Preece, from 'Shimmy Recordings'. This one is a ripe bongo-tastic funky dancefloor stormer. It's groove comes with a grin and the subtle analogue waveforms induce a twilight zone effect in this deep solid techno funker. Flip for more sequenced analogue activities in a digital world of tribal grooving beats. Carl Cox has been playing this label regularly since its first release and opened his set at 'Creamfields' with RAW 2, which I think says it all! **Gz**

CLIVE vs FOOSH - 'STRAIGHT FROM THE BARREL/ THURSDAY' (INFECTED)

2 absolutely bangin techno cuts here from Clive (Geezer & Rowland the Bastard) and, new signings, Foosh (DJ Triptomyne & Judder). 'Straight from the Barrel' is as dark a tune as you're likely to hear - it's a rolling, building monster that perforates the eardrums and messes with your mind with some absolutely crazy 'computer goes mad' white noise and effects. 'Thursday' is slightly more restrained, but a thumping kick and top percussion drive it all on to a buzzing, chunky analogue finish. **NS**

JAH SCOOP IN MOONLIGHT CITY - 'URBAN STEPPA/HIGHRISE' (HIGHWIRE)

Already kicking up a storm on the dancefloor, both tracks are totally dub-o-licious and have such a good vibe that you don't want them to end. 'Highrise' is my favourite version, but both tracks totally change the atmosphere with their effective dub flavours and echo chamber working wonders to the mix. Urban soul enhancing, exciting, loads of fun with a festival vibe in the frequencies. This has all the best ingredients to pull the crowd together and is a definite classic. **Gz**

PIG SNORTER - 'THUNDERBIRDS' (ROUTEMASTER)

Thunderbirds are definitely go! Not a track to miss if you are a Gerry Anderson fan! The cast kindly make a special appearance, including Lady Penelope herself, together with the theme signature delivering this well humoured corker! It's most entertaining, though it may wear off after a while. Therefore, while it's fresh it is definitely worth playing to a too serious dancefloor, 'cos it's loads of fun and that's what it's all about! **Gz**

GEEZER - 'MORALLY DIMINISHED/ SCRATCH 'N' SNIFF' (ORGANGRINDER)

Excellent locked grooves move us into the twilight antics well known to 'el' geezer! Tripped-out analogue sounds travel through 'Morally Diminished' with the rides coming and going, pleasantly adding an extra sophisticated touch to its feel. Towards the end more analogue lines hook you in and before you know it you're immorally in a trance! And to top it all you have another equally excellent deep funky techno track, on the other side, leaving 'Scratch 'n' Sniff' to round things off very nicely for this second release from the new sounding 'Organgrinder' label for Y2K. **Gz**

NO ARTIST - 'BUZZSAW' (SMITTEN LTD)

Latest release from this limited edition sub-label from 'Smitten'. Presented in a 10 inch sized vinyl, could this be a 'Pounding Grooves'? Put the record on the deck and the unique deep sound says it all - abstract sounding dancefloor techno. It comes with a stirring sub-bass that rocks you into a trance, alongside its subtle percussive grooves shuffling and shaking in the mix, together with warped pads that give the abstract slant to this very effectual little number. **Gz**

SITE BREAKERS - 'HASH FUDGE DAVE/ PORRIDGE PETE' (STAY UP FOREVER)

Watch out for the site breakers when they're in town, they're always up to no good! A-D and Dave The Drummer break out into a sweat trying to reach the party and once they've hit it their adrenalin kicks in and they go for it in a rather large and loud fashion! Full on excellent urgent percussive acid techno with a mad journey in its tale. Could this be the bad buzz of too much hash fudge ?!? The tracks are interesting and atmospheric amid the full-on rhythms that they produce. Flip over for a more funky and percussive track, with a barking 303 riff that marches along until it meets up with a deeper 303 bassline that carries the whole track gracefully to its very own frenzied porridge summit! **Gz**

SINGLES

REVIEWERS:
GIZELLE, NICK SONIC

CHARLIE DON'T SURF - THE HAIR OF THE DOG E.P. (HAVOK)

After a long break from the studio, Charlie Don't Surf are back on 'Havok', with an eventful E.P. made with their own special recipe for hard-nrg acid techno. It comes with dirty acid basslines, dark kicks to scare away the demons and guitar riffs to rock till dawn. The main track is an epic dirty track with the most actual breakdown I have ever heard. It literally breaks down into nothing for about a bar and you think it's all over until it kicks back in and has another bash at the speakers for good measure. But the track to check is 'Benefit Fraud', an acid techno version of Black Sabbath's 'Paranoid' with all the guitar riffs written in to the track. Leather acid techno with studs! **Gz**

DEXY'S SUBWAY RUNNERS VS BARON FELCH - 'MIG WELDER/VODKA BUSINESS' (SMITTEN)

'Mig Welder' is a deep, dark brooding acid techno track on a more minimal tip created out of a collaboration between Lawrie Immersion and Jim.P from Bristol. Pulsating basslines take us to the dark side of outlaw techno but still with a soothing edge. It's avinit below the surface of the groove and teases all the way. It doesn't burst out at you like most acid techno but it has a strong effect with a deeper feel in the 303. Flip for Baron Felch in his 'Vodka Blindness' giving it the large on the hardcore disco floor. This has a slight funky industrial edge in its groove and has a totally fired up 303, which after a large measure of vodka turns the track into a fuelled Smitten frenzy! **Gz**

NO ARTIST - 'KHAKI' (MAXIMUM MINIMUM)

Old skool flavours spice up this deep London-style underground techno release. On the 'Maximum' side of things we find a deep rolling fat bassline stirring up the analogue sweeping effects presenting an interesting narrative feel. It drives along smoothly until the 'old-skool' wisdom jumps in and shares the ride and roughs it up purely for kicks. On the 'Minimum' side of things we have a more maximum kick and excellent gentle funky percussive grooves, working together well topped up with deep brooding sounds that mix up a dark and twisting atmosphere for all your nocturnal necessities. **Gz**

JULIAN LIBERATOR - 'TRUE DEFECTIVE SAMPLER' (4X4)

To be released end of November and has to be the strongest '4x4' yet. Full-on dynamic techno with vision.

GLENN WILSON - 'THE PROCESS EP' (PLANET RHYTHM)

This man seems to be releasing cuts all over the place at the moment and this is more of the same. Gritty, industrial, noisy techno - just how we like it! As usual we've got tracks that are very different in their approach but are all original. Of the 3 'Reengage' is the most dancefloor friendly and it's a great piece of pounding, chugging, deep techno with a suitably large driving kick. 'D-drive' gets things a touch funkier with loads of analogue ingredients and harsh percussion, whilst 'Engage' (electron edit) is an abrasive break beat monster that takes no prisoners. **NS**

VENTILATOR VS IGNITION TECHNICIAN - 'INTERNAL SIGNAL EP' (TEMPLATE)

2 tracks complemented by two remixes by Jack Mackrel herald the new release from Template, a label that for me doesn't always hit the heights but always demands attention. 'Adapter' is a nice slice of hard-hitting mechanical techno whilst the rmx gets nastier thanks to an earth-shattering bass that kicks in mid-way and is absolutely huge. 'Conflict' on the B funks it up with a more tribal feel. Mackrel madness prevails on his mix with a hard, grinding, no-nonsense effort. Definitely one to seek if you're not easily intimidated...! **NS**

DAWN PATROL - 'PUT THE FUCKIN' NEEDLE ON THE RECORD!!!/BLEED NIPPLES' (CLUSTER)

D.A.V.E. the Drummer and A D from Kinetec Records are back for their second release on Cluster as Dawn Patrol and this seriously kicks some techno ass! My personal fave has to be the B side 'Bleed Nipples' which is pure dancefloor techno that's frankly scary. Tough, dirty and building, this is Cluster at it's best - percussion thrown in from all angles, galloping bass and a fantastic snare roll that really drives the track along, plus the opportunity for a long mix out after the break. Check out the great needle scratch as well as it's bound to confuse the crowd. **NS**

POUNDING GROVES - (AUDIO)

10" E.P. double pack from the unique sound of 'Pounding Grooves', fully interpreting the word 'Audio'.

FRONTSIDE - 'ABDUCTED EP' (FRONTSIDE)

Progressive techno with a funky tribal edge, very similar to 'Hawke', USA. This time, from Australia!

DAVE THE DRUMMER - (HYDRAULIX)

Hip-hop flavoured vocal sample gives this techno track both character and style with streetwise flavours.

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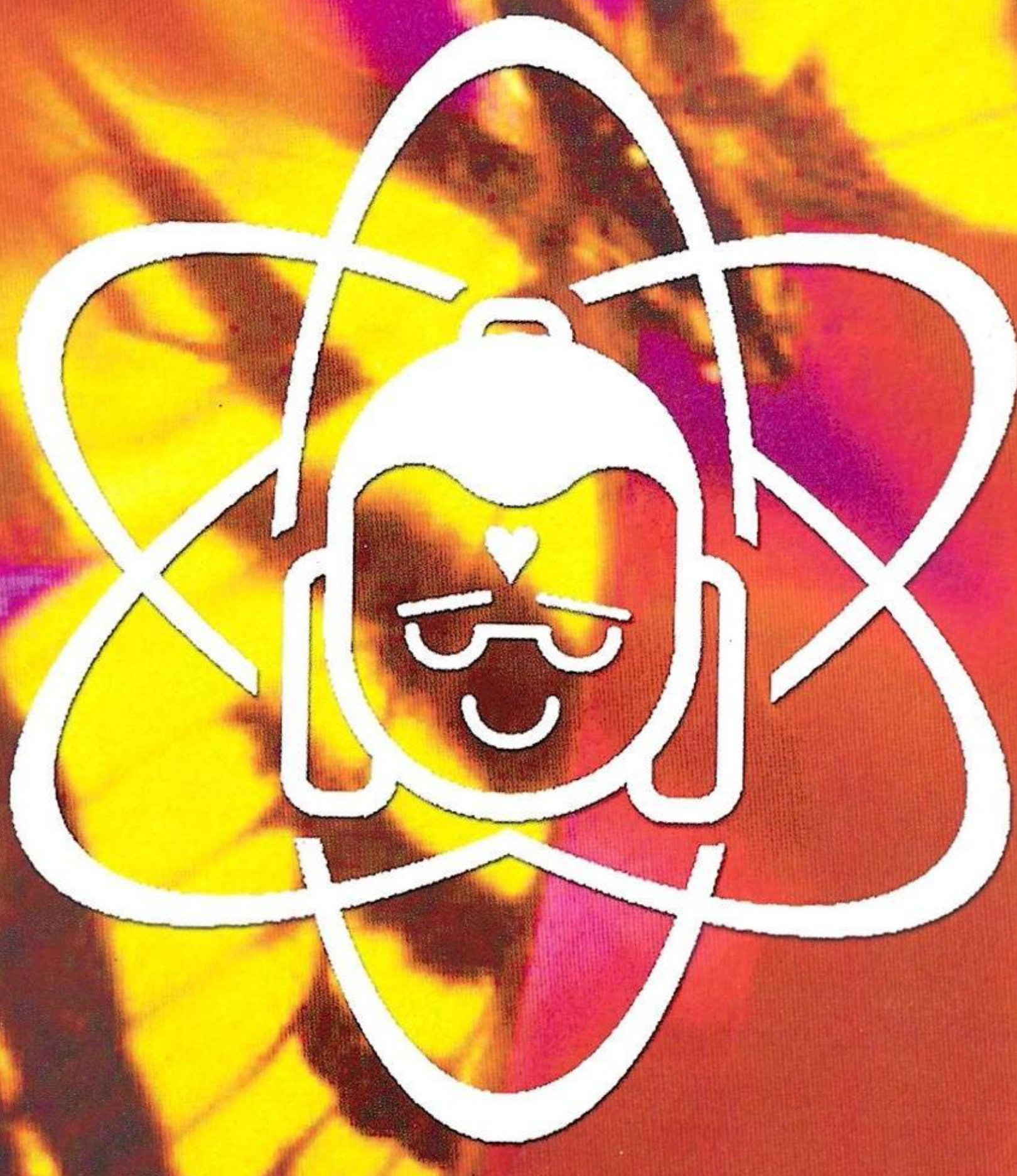
new years eve party



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SINGLES

REVIEWERS:
SOL RAY, MORPHY RICHARDS
TOM MADDICOTT & JIMMY TANGO

VICIOUS CIRCLES - VICIOUS CIRCLES (PLATIPUS)

Can it really be 5 yrs since we were trance-ported to Nirvana by Poltergeist's original. Released as 2x12s, rmxs come from Andy Gray, the brilliant Moogwai and Max Graham. Andy Gray gives us 2 deep n dreamy excursions on the theme with Moogwai and Max staying blissfully true to the original and keeping the ricochet riff. Max' mix gets the vote with shuffly breaks n phaserd loops exploring surge tactics to the extreme. **SR**

WORKSHOP - FLOATING (ABOVE THE SKY)

This is a slamming piece of Dutch trance, plain & simple. No frills, no fuss, it does exactly what it says on the packet and that's kick any dancefloor into a seething frenzy. It's from a genre that's gone a bit cheesy, but is an example of how to do it right, especially in it's Endymion remix guise. Here a solid rolling bass and building synths take us to the break where a slightly unneccesary female vocal warbles on about floating. She's soon forgotten as the monster riff kicks in and sends your dancefloor into meltdown. **TM**

TICON/DRAGON - STINKING THINKING/LIAR (DRAGONFLY)

Ticon deliver a full on trance monster with some lovely industrial percussive riffs and a progressive b-line. More full on than their last single on 'TIP', with dirty guitars and an increased pace. Dragon produce a laid back affair with acidic builds. More progressive than the A with a deep, kick-ass bass. A beautiful break, classic trancey synths soaring into the sunrise. Early morning stuff!! **MR**

GIGI D'AGOSTINO - BLA BLA BLA (BMG)

A change of pace here, as this track is anything but subtle yet it's certainly effective. Not sure who this is but I've got a feeling that it may have something to do with Mr Picotto, as it's very reminiscent of his mix of "Time to Burn". Hard house meets trance as tough drums and rolling bass combine with throbbing synth sounds to create a dark dancefloor destroyer. **TM**

SUBGOD - VELODROME TV (POLYESTER MUSIC)

It's the a-side that really grabs me here. Canadian Max Graham delivers a beautifully crafted progressive house gem. An unusual echoing drum pattern builds the track into a throbbing, synth led, groover that hooks you and pulls you in. Lush strings appear in the breakdown and then the track really starts to soar as the layers of sound build and build. Max Graham is definitely one to watch for in the future and if this, only their second release, is anything to go by, so is Polyester Music. **TM**

ANIMATED - WIRED (DEVIANT)

Taken from his new Tempting fate L.P. , Wired is the work of Duncan Forbes (ex- of Spooky) and is already causing a stir with many DJ's into the deeper progressive sound. The original combines House, Techno and Breakbeat to create an original sounding track but it's the b-side that's really of interest here. Remixed by himself we are given a dark pounding drum track with definite tribal overtones. Add to that some lush analogue waves and various synth sounds weaving in and out and you've got a deep brooding, Tenagliaesque, type of track. **TM**

S-RANGE - SERIAL OVERTYPES EP (SPIRAL TRAX)

This release has to got to be one of the best for S-Range. Beginning with a deep dark bass line that vibrates thru the skin. A whispering synth knocks on the door and were off as this track drives its way through the ear drums causing maximum damage. Watching this track being played out by, head-honcho, Anti was a pleasure as the whole mood changed and we were taken down that trade mark S-Range sound. Side B is subtle and minimal, with trancey conga's and spacey effects. **MR**

NUCLEAR RAMJET - DELTA 1 EP (ASCEND RECS)

Releasing their first album Age of Aquarius on Montreal based Ascend Recs. has seen them stick a big pin in the trance map for Canada. Inspired by 2001 Space Odyssey's feeling of paranoia its a deep, grooving number chugging along with the power and pace of a freight train, picking up speed before crashing into the buffers of your mind. It is so nice to see more countries dipping their fingers into the psychedelic pie and coming up with quality new flavours. **JT**

TRICKSTER - TURQUOISE MOOD (TWISTED)

Tristan & Dick Trevor fire up the senses with this throbbin freaky creature. Percolated high fuelled trance with succulent bass n beats.

SHPONGLE - DMT RMXS (TWISTED)

Another huge track from Sphongle (aka Simon Posford & Raja Ram). Taken from the highly successful album of the same name released last year and intensified for your pleasure.

ULTRASONIK - PULSATING RHYTHM (JOOF)

Only four releases in and already a label to watch. Hypnotic. Effective. On form.

PHILLIPE VAN MULLEM - MAGNETIC (BONZAI)

Bonzai continue the progressive quest with this clean n funky paced dreamster.

FISH TALES VOL.4 - 'ALIEN Lobster Abduction'

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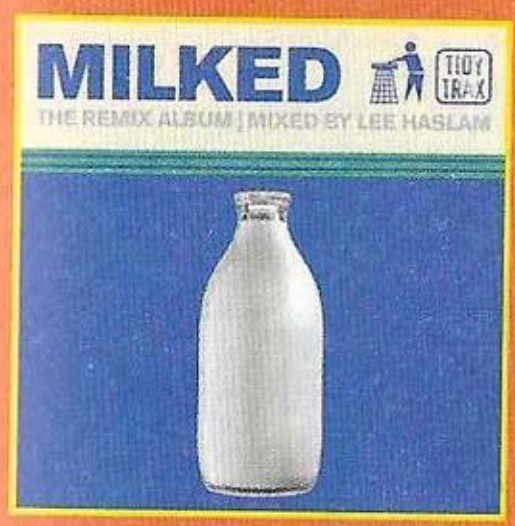

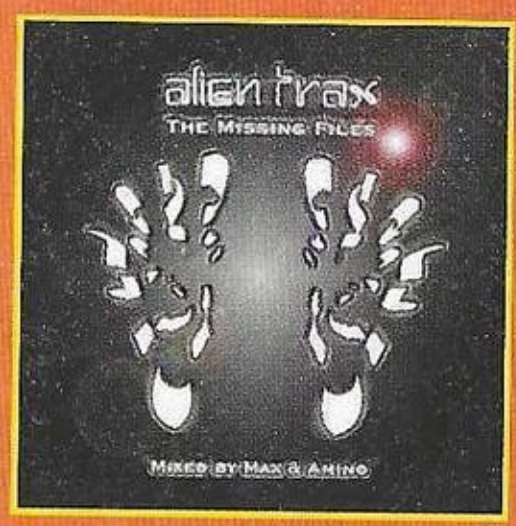

ALBUMS

REVIEWERS: JIMMY TANGO, ANDY MASON, DAN BASELEY, FREAKY BOB & MORPHY RICHARDS

TELEPORTATION - MAN WITH NO NAME (DRAGONFLY RECORDS)

This is the first time Man With No Name's best tracks & rmxs can be found on one album. Give yer brain a wash in the acid bath of one of the true originators of the trance scene. 9 Flights of Fancy; lift, twist & turn before dragging yer brain outside for a damn good kicking. MWNN has kept on the straight & narrow through the years with his own building, acid splattered style of psy-trance which always conjures up memories of many a sunrise over a trance beaten dance floor. This album's relentless revving grooves will rekindle the smouldering embers of the party fires into roaring infernos. This includes Classics-'Teleport', Nuro Tunnel, Jack in the Box, Lunar Cycle, 'Sly-ed along with his huge remixes for Eatstatic, Three Drives & Infernal Machine. JT

TIDY TRAX PRESENTS MILKED (TIDY TRAX)

Well spank my ass and call me Margaret! Those mysterious white labels with our little friend and his bin on them had more than just rockin the clubs in mind. That's right all 12 of the 'M' series have now made their way onto this CD along with a very cheeky bonus track. Carefully selected classics like Signum's "Coming On Strong", David Holmes "Samsara" and Hyperlogics "Only Me", to name a few, have been put through the giant reworking machines of Hard House land and what a job they've done. It's calcyummy!! (Also available as two LPs, 3x12' in each, 12 tracks in total, M1-M12. Miss and forever be kickin yourself.) DB

ALIEN TRAX - THE MISSING FILES (ALIEN TRAX)

Alien Trax seem to have an individual feel to nearly everything they do, trancy but chunky, NRG but deep "If that makes any sense at all,....well anyway" now we have 13 of the little beauties to wonder at, and may I say "they rock like a quarry"!! The first three tracks tease us with a deeper pumping sound, which only serves to light up the runway for the rest of the album. Max & Amino are the main instigators along with a few other visitors, like Lab 4 and OD404 to name a couple. If you like the more underground flavour as opposed to the main frame formulated hoover driven stuff I would highly recommend this carefully crafted and well put together CD. The verdict - Music for those with big eyes and thin bodies, if ya know what I mean! DB

VARIOUS ARTISTS - INSOMNIA (TIDY TRAX)

Restless nights tossing and turning listening to the sound of lonesome milk floats and wailing cats are no more!! No it's not a cure for insomnia it's the saviour in the form of two well avin it CD's from the Tidy Boys and Paul Glazby. CD1 is full on bounce in trousers from the Tidy Boys who drive us through 14 of the finest tracks gracing our harder edged house clubs at the moment. CD2 is a fiery little bugger from Paul Glazby who decides to take the leashes off the Hoovers and gives us a darker, harder more underground mix, and might I add he does so to full effect!!! DB

VARIOUS ARTISTS - PAST PRESENT & FUTURE (TRADE)

The original all night bender Trade is 10 years old this year! "Now how old does that make you feel". To celebrate this they've kindly put together a fantastic triple decker of an album. 'Past' is the bonus CD of the bunch that brings back a rare piece of Trade history from, who else but, Tony De Vit "say no more". 'Present' is an altogether funky but pumping selection put together by Trade & Kiss FM's Sharp Boys, with tracks from X Press 2, Timo Maas and Loleatta Holloway and is full frontal grooving house with a 'Sharp' edge. 'Future' is an absolutely cracking CD that brings forth, into the limelight, Trade's new super star, DJ Gonzalo. If I was to say it builds until it shakes yer bones you would get the idea. Well worth checking out!! DB

BOP (BIONIC ORGAZM PRODUCTIONS)

Deep, mindful, powerful and seasonal (Psychedelic Physics -Song of the Shroom!). This is a worthy compilation for Bionic Orgazm who have in the past, and seemingly still continue to, defy categorisation through their skilled ability to draw on all that is good within dance music. From the layered "Resist" Deep Technique, a track which has the potential to be a club classic, via the driving "Helium" O.V.N.I., through to the manic "Xeniath 200" Trace Element, perfect for the dirty, dingy, head fukked warehouse. The last two tracks on this well mastered compilation album - the above mentioned "Song of the Shroom" and "ZeNRG" by The Sonic Scientists are to be released as 12"s for the DJ market - the classic promotional tool - a decision I don't envy, considering the strength of all the tracks. FB

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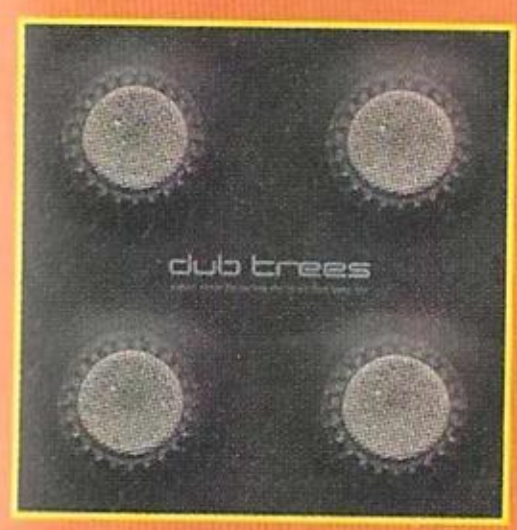

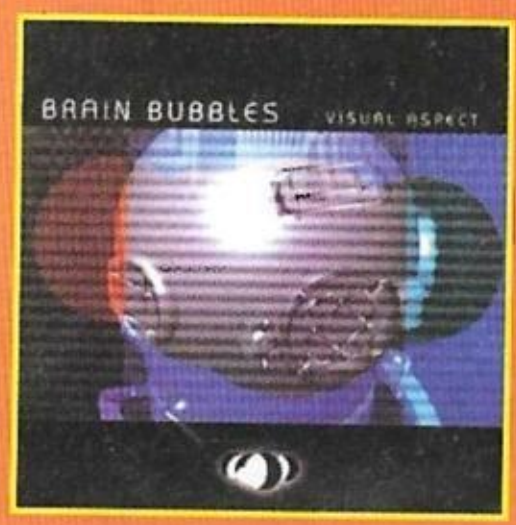

ALBUMS

CALIFORNIA SUNSHINE - WONDERLAND (PHONOKOL)

This album is classic Goa trance. The term Goa trance has to a certain extent become a dirty word, however this album is true to what Goa trance used to stand for: insane, melodic, thought provoking, mind melding, hypnotic, powerful, carefree, and ultimately deep. Due to the nature of how long we have had Goa trance, innovation within it is difficult, i.e. there is nothing new left to explore, but this should not detract from thoughts about buying this album. Innovation can sometimes go too far in the wrong direction and if a formula works... what's the problem? As such this album is pure outdoor music, timed best for a sunrise as life rouses for another day. Its musical style cannot help but lift; reawaken something that is entrenched deep within the human psyche. The added bonus with this is that you get a second mix CD of DJ Miko playing primarily his own tracks (or at least remixes). **FB**

DJ CHRISBO - VARIOUS ARTISTS - THE TRAVEL BUG (RETURN TO THE SOURCE)

2nd release in the Explorations series compiled and mixed by source resident, member of trance legends Medicine Drum and global DJ extraordinaire Chrisbo. The concept was conceived from his global touring of the psy-trance party scene. Comprising a set of uplifting yet pumping tunes, which would raise any early morning dance floor to the skies. It is dusted with psychedelic twists, a good dose of hard synth stabs and Chrisbo's never ending change of pace seemed to lift and drop me like a yoyo. Featured artists incl. Juno Reactor, Cass, Logic Bomb and Earth. **JT**

PROCYON - KISS THE FUTURE (ATOMIC)

Atomic's latest comp takes us through various realms of music making it difficult to pigeonhole them, but after hearing the response to these tracks at Boom we were looking forward to the complete works and we weren't disappointed. It's clear from this release that Atomic are embracing different genres and I'm sure some of the purists may have something to say about it, but stagnation is never a good thing. Fair play to Atomic for moving forward! **MR**

DUB TREES - NATURE NEVER DID BETRAY THE HEART THAT LOVED HER (LIQUID SOUND DESIGN THRU DRAGONFLY)

The first new material from Youth in a while. That & the title is, in my opinion, reason enough to check this out. What you'll discover is a stunning collection of tunes, with a dub thread running through each, but not your average or typical dub. Immaculately produced, with luscious great big reverbs soaking everything up & throwing it all back at you flanged, phazed, gated & swept & god knows what trickery. This is the sort of CD you can get into at home under most conditions & don't be surprised to hear some of it in the more ambitious chill/groove rooms. Over a year in the making, this is Youth's 'personal homage to the dub sounds that inspired him of King Tubby, Augustus Pablo, Lee Perry & Bunny Lee. My faves are Buffalo, A way of Being Free, & Magnetica. **AM**

SPACECAT - SHAPES OF SOUND (BNE)

A brilliant album from the Cosmic Cat from Israel - this is quality from start to finish - deep, dark, atmospheric and fukin bangin!!

VARIOUS ARTISTS - PSYCHEDELIC GATE 2 (ZOOMSHOT)

2 CDs compiled by DJ Moonchild including some previously unreleased trax. The first a dark minimal groover taking in delights from Insect and Noma among others. The second is an upbeat and Goa orientated affair.

YAHEL - WAVES OF SOUND (HOMEGA)

Stacked full of euphoric anthems with a psychedelic twist - think Man With No Name for 2001 and you wont be disappointed..

VARIOUS ARTISTS - ABSTRACTION (PLUSQUAM)

This is the first compilation on the new label, Plusquam Recs. Featuring the best vinyl releases until now & some new ones too.

VARIOUS ARTISTS FISHTALES VOL 4 - ALIEN LOBSTER ABDUCTION (TINRIB)

Mixed by Max The Alien Thing and featuring the best of the years releases. It's avin it and you know it!!

SHOCK VOL 1 (SHOCK)

They've taken their sound from China to LA. They're 50 releases strong. Their first LP and it's choc full of Shock favs.

SHIVA CHANDRA - AURICULAR (SPIRIT ZONE)

Pure trance, beefy & fat, yet minimal with a heavy dose of crisp samples that will send shivers up & down yer spine.

BRAIN BUBBLES - USTA - THE UNDERGROUND SOUND OF TEL AVIV (KREMBO)

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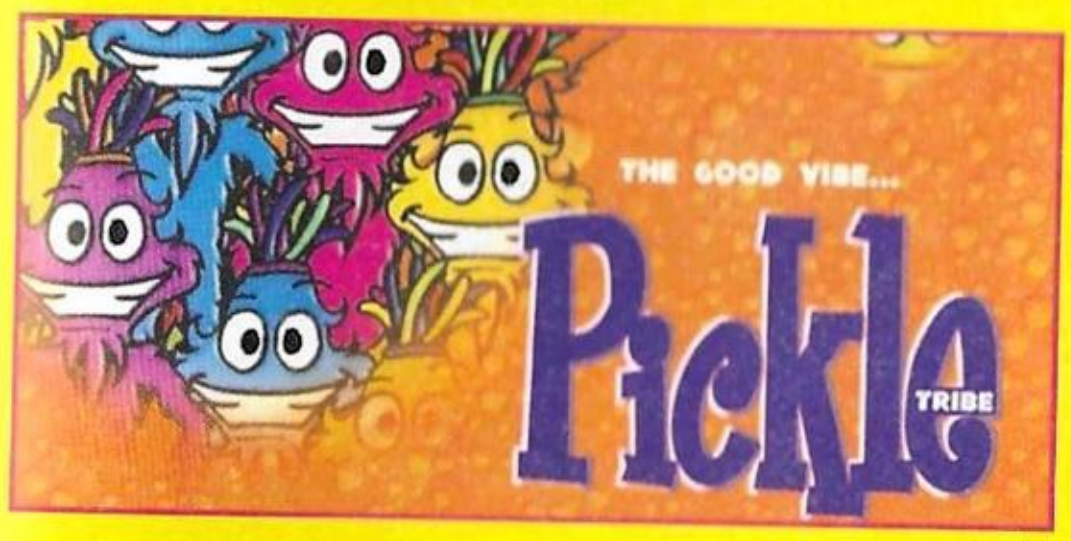

PARTY ACTION

For up to date information on listings you could try

www.accessallareas.org

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY

LOGIC @ George IV. 144 Brixton Hill. London. SW2. 9- 5am. £3. Sayber, Tony Kinetec & MC Dri Weave on rotation + guests.

WEEKLY THURSDAY

VIBRATION BYTES @ The Turtle. 61-65 Crowndale Rd, Camden. 7pm-midnight. **INFO: 020 7383 4976**

WEEKLY FRIDAY

SAMSARA @ The Fridge. Brixton. London. 10-6am. Rezzies incl Beamish, Oberon, Nuw Idol, SBL etc

THERE @ Heaven. The Arches. Villiers St. London. 10.30pm-6am. £10. Main room hosted by Fevah with hard house + trance. **INFO: 0207 734 3334**

WEEKLY SATURDAY

TANGLED @ Oxford Rd. Manchester. 10pm-4am. £6 mems/£8 door. **INFO: 07989 704362**

BITCHIN @ The Kennel Club. (formally Gold's). Off Freeschool Lane. & Highcross St. Leicester. 10pm-4am. £7 mems/£8 non. **INFO: www.hotdoguk.net/bithin.html**

ROOM 101 @ The Adelphi. Vicarage Rd, Sheffield. 9:30-3:30. £8. Ian M + guests. **INFO: 01159268312**

HOTDOG @ The Lost Weekend. Nottingham. 9.30pm-3am. £10 concs/£12. **INFO: 0116 225 1429**

LOGIC @ George IV. 144 Brixton Hill. London. SW2. 11am-8pm. (until 2am once a month). £3. Sayber, Tony Kinetec, MC Dri Weave + guests

SUBSTANCE @ FREEDOM. Bagleys. Kings Cross. Off Goods Way. London. Till 7am. Lisa Pin Up & guests.

CATCH 23 @ Cloud 9. Vauxhall. London. 10pm-6am. Trance & Hard house.

FAHRENHITE @ Soundshaft. Heaven. Hungerford Lane. London. WC2. 10pm-6am. £8/£10. **INFO: 0207 7343334.**

RESIDENTIAL @ Doncaster Warehouse. North Bridge. Marshgate. Doncaster. Midnight-7am. £5 Hard house & trance. **INFO: 07939 243418.**

THE WAREHOUSE WILL BE OPEN BOXING DAY AND NEW YEARS EVE, ALL RESIDENTS WILL BE PLAYING BACK TO BACK!

WEEKLY SUNDAYS

SUNNY SIDE UP @ Venue tbc. London. EC1. 12noon-9pm. £5 mems. £4 B4 2pm/£6 after/Guests £6/B4 2pm. £8 after. **INFO: 08700 786697.**

FUMPIN IN ASSOC WITH RELATIVITY @ The Bodega. 86 Princess Street. Manchester. 1pm-11pm. £3. Res: Evolution, Andy Mason & guests. **INFO: 0161 236 786**

FEVAH @ The Tube. Falconberg Ct. Tottenham Ct Rd. London. 7pm-3am. £5/£7. **INFO: 0207 734 3334.**

PROVOCATION @ The Office. 3-5 Rathbone Place. London. W1. 6.30am-2pm. Strictly members/guests only. Membership £5/yr. **INFO: 0207 3776669.**

INSOMNIACZ @ The Corporation. Bank St. Sheffield. 4am-noon. Resident DJ's: Paul Glazby & Mark Gray. **INFO: 0115 9268312.**

SCREAM @ Bed. Sheffield. 2pm-2am. **INFO: 07855 546 989.**

FRIDAY 17 NOVEMBER

PROPHECY @ Empire Club. Bognor Regis. 9.30pm-3am. £5 mems/£6 door. Justin Bourne vs J.C. Boy, RSL vs DJ Prophecy, Glenn Miller. **INFO: 07940 143072.**

PEEK 6th BDAY @ The Starlite 2001. Wharf Street South. Leicester. 10pm - 6am. £10 adv more on the door. D.A.V.E The Drummer, 02 live, Perry, Freaky Bob & Jon Bradley. **INFO: http://www.peek.org.uk**

ZYGOSIS @ Easton Comm Centre. Easton. Bristol. 9pm-4am. £5 b4 11pm/£6 after. Zuvuya, JuJu & Process

PROPHECY @ The Telegraph. 228 Brixton Hill. London. SW2. 9.30-late. £7 all night. Beamish, Jace, Mandy Moore & OD2 **INFO: 07909 911702**

SATURDAY 18 NOV

EAT YOUR WORDS @ Room. George St. Hull. 10-4am. Mark EG. **INFO: 077871 20267**

RELATIVITY @ Club Underground. UMIST. Sackville Street. Manchester. 10pm-4am. £7 Adv/£6 + bf. Psy (Transient Records), Surfer + Bez23.

DESTINATION VENUS @ the NMB. Sheffield. 10-6am. Beamish, Nuw Idol, Juno, Bacchus & Dill, Chill Out Jasper Dubmission, Unity Dub, Greg & Sonar Luminescence. **INFO: 0114 225 4122**

PENDRAGON @ The Fridge. Brixton. London. 10-6am. £10 adv £12 door. Mark Sinclair, Tom Wax, Jace, The Sonic Psyentizts. **INFO: 0207 733 3540**

QUEEER @ Bransons. Albion St. Cheltenham. £5. 6-12pm. Sol Ray + Tom Carter & Ben Park.

SKANKADELIC @ Cloud 9. Albert E'ment. London. SE1. 10pm-6am. £7 concs/£8 B4 11/£10 door. Darren Shambhala, Hector, Mr Burns. **INFO: 07909 637147**

MINDSCAPES @ The Drome. London Bridge. Stainer St. London. 10pm-11am. £10/£5 after 6am.

FISH @ The Depot. Lawrence Hill. Bristol. 10pm-5am. £8 B411 & cons/£10 after. Dave Randall, Max the Alien Thing, Super Fast Oz. **INFO: 0207 6841115.**

INFAMOUS @ Maze. Hepburn Rd. S. Croft. Bristol. 10pm -5am. £10. Infamous vs Nukleuz. **INFO: 07721 909353.**

FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER

PICKLE @ Club Colloseum. 1 Nine Elms Lane. Vauxhall. SE1. 10pm-6am. Adv £10/Door £13 b4 11pm/£15 after /mems £10/£2 off NUS. Pants & Corset, Knuckleheadz, Steve Blake, Tony Kinetec, Robert O. Res: Thermobee, J.Roach, Loose, Bad Boy Bobski, Anarcho Funketeers. **INFO: 020 7403 2917**

LOGIC

The Fridge, Brixton

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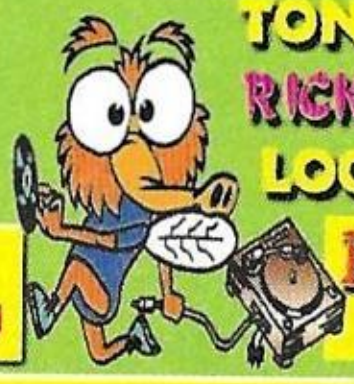

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FEERSUM @ Crash. Arch 66. Goding Street. Vauxhall. London. SE11. £10/£12. 10pm-6am. Pete Wardman, Dan Madams, Chris C. **INFO: 07939 039075/07957 485120. AFTERPARTY @ RUINED** - held after every FEERSUM.

HEADCHARGE @ The Underground. Walker St. Sheffield. 11pm-7am. £8 cons.£10 on door. S.B.L. (live PA) + residents. **INFO: 0114 2496560**

SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER

ANTIWORLD @ The Drome. Stainer St. London Bridge. SE1. 10pm-9am. £8 +bf adv/£10 on door. K 90 live, Mark Sinclair, Beamish, E303. **INFO: 0794 0527867**

PSYCHEDELIC CIRCUS @ The Arches. Sheffield. 10-7am. £8 + bf adv/£10 door/£8.50 concs. Ed Tangent, Jimmy Tango, Cerebellum, Vek, Lennie Lazerbeam, Andy Mason, Audio Architects, Jo, Mia, Psychederek and Aggis.

ASTRAL PHOENIX 3rd Bday @ Tyseen St Studios. London. E8. £10. Blade Runner, Xerox live, Chris Organic, Zen Terrorists. **INFO: 0958 455 546**

HERESY @ Maze. Hepburn Rd. Stokes Croft. Bristol. 10pm-5am. £7. Glenn Miller, Jo Shiva, Dan Pearce etc. **INFO: 07721 909353**

FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER

EAT YOUR WORDS @ Gypsy Math. Humberside Uni. 10pm-4am. Madam Friction. **INFO: 0771 871 20267**

NORTH @ The Void. Glass St. Hanley. Stoke on Trent. Randy, Producer, Scorpio, Mark EG, M Zone. **INFO: 07785 707557**

UBER @ Cloud 9. 66-67 Albert Embankment. London. SE1. 10pm-6.30am. £7 concs + b4 11/£10 after. Groove Asylum (live), D.A.V.E The Drummer (live), Commander Tom, The Liberators, Chris Todd, Pat Hurley. **INFO: 078 0125 6594**

COHESION @ Subway City. Livery St. B'ham. 10pm-4am. £6 tickets/£8 door. Thermobee, Ron Atomiser, Cyber Steve, Ratty. **INFO: 07788 997855**

SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER

DIP RECORDS @ Cloud 9. Vauxhall. London. 10-7am. £8 b4 11/£7 adv. Dynamic Intervention, Sol Ray, Rich & Gordie, Chopperillo, DJ M. **INFO: 0207 346 8488**

INFAMOUS @ Maze. Hepburn Road. Stokes Croft. Bristol. 10pm-5am. £10. **INFO: 07721 909353**

BERZERK @ The Fridge. Brixton. London. SW. 10pm-6am. £8 concs/£10 with flyer b4 12/£13 after. Paul Johnson & Jason Nawty. **INFO: 07968 596767**

QUEEER @ Bransons. Albion St. Cheltenham. £5. 6-12pm. Andy Farley, Justin Bourne.

FISHTANK @ The Wedgewood Rooms. 147 Albert Rd. Southsea. 9-2am. £8 adv/£7 mems/more on the door. Simon Eve, Jonty, Fat Bob Harley. **INFO: 01628 416890**

FRANTIC XMAS BALL @ Camden Palace. 1a Camden High St. London. NW1. 9-6am. £14 Adv. Andy Farley, Spencer Freeland and Phil Reynolds

FUTURE FUNK @ The Depot. Bristol. 10-6am. £10. Future Funk vs Cure For Cancer. **INFO: 07980 863505**

SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER

SUNDAZE @ Revolution. Mappin St. Sheffield. 7pm onwards. Free. Solid State, Ev, Danny Hind, Mouli & Dr Chill & Stephen Carley. **INFO: sundaze@easyliving.com**

SUNDISSENTIAL WEST @ Club Evolution. Waterfront. Bristol. 2pm-midnight. £10 mems. £12 guests. Steve Thomas, Rob Tissera, Nick Rafferty, Disco Brothers & more. **INFO: 08700 667566**

SCREAM @ Rock. Bristol. 2pm-2am. Judge Jules, Tall Paul, Dan Pearce, The Saint. **INFO: 07855 546 989.**

FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER

TRANCEMISSION @ Leicester Sq. Belgrave Gate. Leicester. 10-6. £8. Jimmy Tango, Aggis, Eye I + guests. **INFO: 0797 1322952**

SYNERGY @ Cloud 9. Vauxhall. London. 10-7am. £8 b4 11/£7 adv. DJs TBC. **INFO: 0207 346 8488**

UNDERTOW @ The Drome. Stainer St. London Bridge. London. 10pm-6am. £8 adv/£10 door. Fabry, Jari, Stelvio. **INFO: 0771 5550788.**

BERZERK'S XMAS PARTY @ Enzos. The Highpost. Salisbury. 10-3.00am. £8 concs/£10 B4 12. Paul Johnson, Jason Nawty, Tom Harding. **INFO: 07968 596767**

SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER

RIPSNORTER @ The Depot. Lawrence Hill. Bristol. 10pm-5am. £8 b411 + cons/£10 after. E-Trax Label Launch. **INFO: 07989 421289**

ALIEN RESONANCE @ The Zanzibar Club. 43 Seel Street. Liverpool. 10-4am. £7.50/£6 NUS/mems. Vek, Psychederek and Jo + Aggis.

LOGIC @ The Fridge. Brixton. London. 10-6am. Concs £8/Adv £10/Door £12. Rubec, Dri Weave, J.Roach, Oberon, Tony Kinetec, Nuw Idol + DJ Shinkawa.

RETURN TO THE SOURCE @ Cloud 9. Albert E'ment. Vauxhall. London. 10-7am. £8 b4 11/adv £7. Blu Peter, Baraka, Chrisbo. **INFO: 0207 346 8488**

WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER

NUKLEUZ XMAS PARTY @ The Scala. 275 Pentonville Rd. London. N1. 7-3am. £7 Adv. Mauro Picotto & Mario Pui, Andy Farley, BK, Ed Real, Nick Sentience & Spencer Freeland. **INFO: 0771 2552466**

FRIDAY 15 DECEMBER

PROPHECY @ Empire Club. Bognor Regis. 9.30am-3am. £5. Xmas Bash. Madam Friction. **INFO: 07940 143072**

TSUNAMI @ Cloud 9. Vauxhall. London. 10-7am. £8 b4 11/£7 adv. Orange Peel, Dave Randall, Andy Farley, Rubec, Keef, Joe Shiva, Jon Doe, M Zone, Darren Shambhala, Oberon. **INFO: 0207 346 8488**

PARTY ACTION

RETURN TO THE SOURCE

HEADCHARGE @ The Underground. Walker St. Sheffield. 11pm-7am. £6/£5. Xmas Underground Sound Clash feat. Curfew & Spoof. **INFO: 0114 2496560**

SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER

MINDSCAPES @ The Drome. London Bridge. Stainer St. London. 10-11am. £10/£5 after 6am.

QUEEER @ Bransons. Albion St. Cheltenham. £5. 6-12pm. Karim, Tom Carter & Tink.

DESTINATION VENUS @ The NMB. Sheffield. 10-6am Beamish, Oberon, Zen Terrorists, Bacchus & Dill. **INFO: 0114 225 4122**

SKANKADELIC vs CATCH 23 @ Cloud 9. Vauxhall. London. 10-7am. £8 b4 11/£7 adv. Superfast Oz, Raymondo, Sayber, Nev Scott, Dan Baseley. **INFO: 0207 346 8488**

SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER

SUNDAZE @ Revolution. Mappin St. Sheffield. 7pm onwards. Free. Solid State, Ev, Danny Hind, Mouli & Dr Chill, Stephen Carley. **INFO: sundaze@easyliving.com**

FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER

PEEK XMAS PARTY @ The Charlotte. Oxford Street. Leicester. 9 till late. £5 b4 10.30/£6 after. **INFO: http://www.peek.org.uk**

CONVERGENCE 2nd Bday @ Crash. Arch 66. Goding St. London. SE11. 10-6. £10 Adv. BK + rezzies. **INFO: 0771 2552466**

CONFUSION @ Cloud 9. Vauxhall. London. 10-7am. £8 b4 11/£7 adv. Matt Clarke, Rubec, Superfast Oz, Thermobee, Darren Shambhala, Jace & Keef. **INFO: 0207 346 8488**

SATURDAY 23 DECEMBER

TRIBE OF FROG @ The Depot. Lawrence Hill. Bristol. 10-6am. £7 b4 11pm/£10 after. Shahara, Na't'zan, Ryo, Andy Mason, Sol Ray, DJ Pod, Abduction, DJ Majik. **INFO: 0117 9393150**

PENDRAGON @ The Fridge. Brixton. London. 10-6am. £10 adv/£12 door. Mark Sinclair, Jace, The Secret Live, More tbc. **INFO: 0207 733 3540**

QUEEER @ Bransons. Albion St. Cheltenham. £5. 6-12pm. Steve Thomas, Ben Park & Swenly.

SONIC BOOM @ The 1 in 12 Club. Albion St. Bradford. All 9-6am. £5 mems/£6 non. 3 Floors of Trance & Techno, Dub & Space Chill.

BOXING DAY

LOGIC @ The Fridge. Brixton. London. 12noon-8pm. Concs £8/Adv £10/Door £12. Mad Theo, Raymondo, Dri Weave, Tony Kinetec, Orange Peel, Choci and Lab 4

SUNDISSENTIAL WEST @ Club Evolution. Waterfront, Bristol. 9pm-4am. £10 mems/£12 guests. Lisa Lashes, Rob Tissera, Charlotte Birch, Disco Brothers. **Membership details 08700 667566.**

SCREAM @ Rock. Bristol. Tall Paul, Fergie, Dan Pearce, The Saint & Sarah G. **INFO: 07855 546 989.**

SATURDAY 30 DECEMBER

NORTH XMAS PARTY @ The Void. Glass St. Hanley. Stoke on Trent. **INFO: 07785 707557**

QUEEER @ Bransons. Albion St, Cheltenham. £5. 6-12pm. Dave Randall, Tom Carter & Rob Tarren.

NEW YEARS EVE

SLAMMIN VINYL vs UNITED DANCE vs HARDCORE HEAVEN vs SUBSTANCE @ The Sanctuary. Milton Keynes. 10-6am. £30 + bf. Hardcore. Drum n' Bass. Hard House. Billy 'Daniel' Bunter, Jon Doe, M-Zone, Sarge, Trixta, Energy + Old Skool. **INFO: 020 8363 5566**

FREEDOM 2001 @ Substance. Enfield. Brandon Block. Alex P, Mike Ruff. **INFO: 020 8363 5222.**

HEADCHARGE @ The Underground. Walker St. Sheffield. 11pm-7am. £6/£5. TBC. **INFO: 0114 2496560**

RETURN TO THE SOURCE @ Brixton Academy. Stockwell Rd. London. SW9. 9-6am. £26. Mark Allen, Blu Peter, Oberon, Beamish, Lab 4, Quirk, Lisa PinUp, BK. **INFO: 0207 771 2000**

PENDRAGON @ The Theatre Factory. Tyssen St. Dalston. London. Mark Sinclair, Jace, Oberon, Beamish, Choci + loads tbc. **INFO: 0207 7333450**

SPECIES vs HOMEGROWN @ Trinity. Bristol. To be confirmed. **INFO: 0973 734 701**

RIPSNORTER @ The Depot. Bristol. 9-6. £15 + bf adv. More on door. Raymondo, Jo Shiva, Glenn Miller, Dan Pearce, Colinizer, Pod, Lady Base. **INFO: 0117 9087922**

NEW YEARS DAY

MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN @ Heaven. The Arches. Villiers St. London. WC2. 11am - 9pm. Fevah Trance Launch Party. Lab 4, Andy Farley, Ian M, Matt Clarke, Eamonn Fevah. **INFO:** 0207 734 3334

FRANTIC @ The Fridge. 1 Town Hall Parade. Brixton. SW2. 12noon-12midnight. £15 Adv. Spencer Freeland, Chris Todd, Andy Farley + BK and Nick Sentience. **INFO: 0771 2552466**

Send party information or piccies to UPFRONT.
Fax: 0117 977 2345
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TRIBE OF FROG

REACT

REACTIVATE 17

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Contact Signs Of Life **Lee Coombes Remix**
Tyrell Corp. Running 2.0 **Mauro Picotto Mix**
Vincent De Moor Fly Away **Instrumental**
Nautica Tomorrow **DJ Alici's Remix**
Andy Ling Fixation **Airwave Mix**
Blue Alphabet Musical Crime Killers
Marc Michaels Hyper Intelligence
Christopher Lawrence Cruise Control
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Push Till We Meet Again
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Nick Sentience Digital Dialogue
Meridian Reach For The Stars
DJ Natron & Reverb Presents 'Flutlicht' Ahmea

REACTIVATE 17 CLUB TOUR Featuring Darren Pearce (October 2000 - January 2001)

Oct 28 **Seduction Halloween Weekender** (Great Yarmouth 08450 666 999)
Nov 04 **Space** The Temple Theatre (Dublin)
Nov 03 **Twisted** Chunnel Club (London)
Nov 10-12 **Sound Collection** (Japan)
Nov 22 **Magic** (Los Angeles USA)
Nov 23 **Chrome** (Boston USA)
Nov 24 **Crobar** (Chicago USA)
Nov 25 **Centennial** (Vancouver Canada)
Dec 01 **Twisted** The Chunnel Club (London)
Dec 02 **The Country Club** (Dorchester)
Dec 08 **Naughty But Nice** The Rooms (Hereford)
Dec 09 **Enigma** Bah Rumba (Newport S.Wales)
Dec 14 **Tsunami** Reflections (Bath)
Dec 22 **Cafe Blue** (Bristol)
Jan 05 **Panache** Aspects Leisure Park (Bedford)
Jan 06 **The Honey Club** (Brighton)
Jan 20 **Republica** Bakers (Birmingham)

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tickets and information

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little known facts

this winter solstice at dawn for the first time in forty years the planet venus will be in perfect alignment with the light tunnel of the birthing chamber at newgrange ireland, the venusian light briefly streaming down the tunnel and illuminating the pure quartz crystal walls and filling the chamber with a brilliant white light. you could set your watch by it.